

# THE PINK

Saturday, June 11, 2016

65p

Supporting local sport

Daily Echo

## YOUR GUIDE TO THE 2016 EURO CHAMPIONSHIPS

DON'T MISS OUR GREAT 16-PAGE PULLOUT SPECIAL



# EUR WE GO, EUR WE GO!

## Saints ace set for historic outing this weekend ...

**STEVEN Davis will this weekend see a dream come true as he captains Northern Ireland in their first major tournament for 30 years.**

Davis had only just been born when his country last made an appearance in a major finals, but is set to lead Northern Ireland as they open their Euro 2016 campaign against Poland on Sunday.

The Saints midfielder is the class act for his nation, and his performances will be key to their hopes of progressing through a group that also features Germany and Ukraine. Northern Ireland know

winning their first game will be key, and Davis and his teammates will be doing everything they can to try and ensure their dream run continues.

*Continued on page 2*

Steven Davis will skipper Northern Ireland against Poland tomorrow.

### INSIDE



**Exclusive Terry Paine column - see page 3**



**Saints job a poisoned chalice? Pg 4**



**Great non league football coverage inside**

goals

FREE TRIAL GAME

JOIN THE BIGGEST & BEST  
**5-A-SIDE**  
LEAGUES IN SOUTHAMPTON

FREE WEEKEND PITCHES

£60 BAR VOUCHERS

CALL NOW 02380 510 666 or VISIT [goalsfootball.co.uk](http://goalsfootball.co.uk)  
Goals Southampton, Millbrook Point Road, Millbrook, Southampton SO15 0JZ



# Euro 2016 - Wales v Slovakia, today



Gareth Bale in action for Saints in a pre season friendly against Eastleigh in July 2006. Above right – celebrating his second Champions League success with Real Madrid last month

## Bale's journey from teen Saint to Euro 2016 talisman

**JUST over ten years ago, a 16-year-old made his debut for Saints in a Championship game.**

As a result of appearing against Millwall on Easter Monday at St Mary's in April 2006, Gareth Bale became the second youngest Saint of all time, writes **SIMON CARTER**.

A decade on, he is the world's most expensive footballer and the man who carries the hopes of a nation on his shoulders ahead of their European Championship debut later today.

Gareth Bale is the undoubted talisman of the Welsh national team.

The Real Madrid attacker – who played for Saints at left back – scored seven of Wales' 11 goals in qualifying for France, as well as claiming two assists, as the nation ended a 58-year wait for a major tournament.

But the £85m player shunned the one-man team label as he addressed the media ahead of Wales' tournament opener against Slovakia at tea-time today.

"It's never a one-man team, for us it's a squad thing," said Bale, who netted 19 La Liga goals for Madrid in 2015/16 in only 21 starts (plus two off the bench).

"We're together stronger and it's there for a reason – we don't just say it for no reason.

"We all work hard as one unit, we attack as one and we defend as one.

"When we lose the ball we all fight back to get it.

"People can write what they want, but we all know that we work very hard on the training pitch every day."

Bale carries the hopes of a nation on his shoulders, but he says he is unconcerned by the weight of expectation.

Neither is he bothered by the possibility that he could be a marked man at the tournament, and the 26-year-



Gareth Bale scores for Saints in a 2006 FA Youth Cup tie against Crystal Palace at Selhurst Park

old has no interest in calling for greater protection from referees.

"I just want to go out and play football, to enjoy myself on the football pitch," said Bale.

"We all get on so well, we are like brothers.

"We are all friends and we joke around and play together.

"But when it comes down to serious business we fight for each other."

At Wales' media centre in Dinard, Bale also spoke by video link to Gwyn Morris, his former Whitchurch High School PE master, and two current

pupils of his old Cardiff school.

Asked by one pupil which former Welsh player Bale – who made his international debut 10 years ago last month – would have in the side now, said: "Ryan Giggs, he was a hero growing up.

"He was an amazing player and it would have been amazing for him to play on the international stage like this as well.

"It has been a bit surreal being here, especially with Wales having not been there so long.

"Whenever there was a major cham-

pionship on I would be sat and home watching on TV, so to be involved is amazing.

"I imagined qualifying, it was one of my dreams to do so, but to make dreams come true is not easy."

Wales follow the Slovakia opener in Bordeaux with games against England and Russia.

"We do not want to come here and make up the numbers," said Bale.

"We have done something that we have not done in a long time, but now we want to do even better."

## Saints ace embraces Euro 2016

from front page

"It's going to be incredible. It's obviously a new experience for everybody in our squad and we just want to go out and embrace it," said Davis.

"We know it is going to be a step up in quality to what we face in qualification, but I think the biggest thing for us is not to fear it.

"We just need to go out and enjoy it and hopefully we can show people what we're all about.

"In the team we have a great spirit and we are on a good run, so hopefully we can continue that in the two friendlies going into the competition."

He added: "I think it is going to be a great buzz. I wouldn't be surprised if there are a few nerves, but that will be a good thing.

"There's no doubt that the fans are going to be out in their numbers. They give us unbelievable support and always travel home and away.

"I'm sure there will be plenty of people going out there. The players will feed off that and hopefully we can give something back."

Northern Ireland boss Michael O'Neill could have all 23 players at his disposal, including Davis and Saints' 2003 FA Cup finalist Chris Baird, in Nice on Sunday as he tries to plot the downfall of Poland and their in-form striker Robert Lewandowski.

"You have to look at your opposition's strength and weaknesses and try to exploit the weaknesses, especially in a tournament like this," said defender Craig Cathcart.

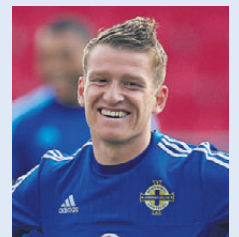
"It will be the little details that make a big difference. The attention to detail is something that Michael has brought in.

"We get little booklets on all the opposition players. Every player we get a little dossier on and areas to exploit and those are the small percentages that can really help."

On whether there were many weaknesses in the file on Lewandowski, Cathcart replied: "To be honest, there weren't many.

"There were one or two. He switches off at times defensively but in and around the box you have to be very careful with him."

Ex-Saint Artur Boruc is expected to be on the bench for Poland.

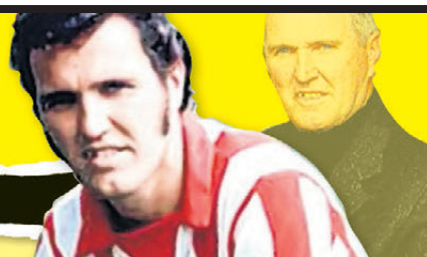


Steven Davis.



# Paine's World

The Saints legend's **EXCLUSIVE** column on all things football



## Time for the Golden Generation to shine

**BELGIUM'S "Golden Generation" is so highly vaunted for good reason.**

Their Euro 2016 squad contains eleven Premier League players, more than any other team outside of the home nations, and is filled with potential game changers.

Thibaut Courtois in goal (with no less than Simon Mignolet as backup); Toby Alderweireld, Thomas Vermaelen, and Jan Vertonghen at the back; Kevin De Bruyne, Eden Hazard, Axel Witsel, Yannick Carrasco, Mousa Dembele, Marouane Fellaini and Radja Nainggolan in the midfield; and Christian Benteke, Romelu Lukaku, Divock Origi and Dries Mertens up front.

They're the highest European nation in FIFA's World Rankings heading into the Euros, sitting in second behind Argentina.

And yet there's a sense that their ranking is unjustified largely down to the fact that they have never had a major impact on any international tournament.

A quarter-final finish at the 2014 World Cup was hardly disgraceful but the Red Devils, having beaten Algeria, Russia, and South Korea in the group stages and narrowly scraped past the United States in the Round of 16, fell to Argentina in their first big test.

More than anything else, the tournament proved that Belgium still had a distance to go before they could truly challenge the best in the world.

Manager Marc Wilmots, in an interview with FIFA at the end of the tournament year, outlined the problem that has been biting at Belgium ever since the emergence of their golden generation.

"Give me 11 talented players and I won't be able to get the job done. Give me a well-functioning team and I will, especially with players on the bench who think the same way. If we have a whole squad which still thinks like that, we'll be able to get results, but if the players only think about ourselves and their talent... talent alone is not enough."

"You need hard work and professionalism to go with that. You have to really know every detail of your profession. And then there's experience, which takes time. This generation has that, and will have it for another seven or eight years."

They have added key elements to their World Cup squad, like Carrasco and Nainggolan, and trimmed around the edges as well, but they're still working on the cohesion within the team.

Although Euro qualifying went by without any major hitches, Belgium being in a forgiving Group B alongside Wales, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Israel, Cyprus, and Andorra, they didn't exactly dominate in the manner that their FIFA Ranking would have suggested.

Toby Alderweireld will be a key part of Belgium's defence as the 'Golden Generation' bid to win Euro 2016.



The FIFA Rankings tend to become very skewed in between World Cups and, while Belgium's high ranking is no mistake, they need to move that they can perform on the big stage to justify all the hype.

Even a semi-final berth this summer would leave a lasting positive effect on the country and give them room to grow at the 2018 World Cup.

This is by no means the last role of the dice for golden generation, they're still the fourth youngest in the tournament and, in theory, should be peaking as a team at the 2018 World Cup in Russia.

But this may be their best shot at winning a major tournament and it is unlikely that Wilmots will survive another wasted chance for Belgium to finally prove themselves on

the biggest stage.

The 47-year-old has grown up with the golden generation, having been an assistant manager for the national team between 2009 and 2012 before taking the reins from Georges Leekens in the aftermath of their catastrophic Euro 2012 Qualifying campaign.

It's hard to tell definitely, though, whether their recent growth is because or in spite of him and a failed Euro 2016 campaign would unbalance the scales in the wrong direction. He's too often tried to stuff their top eleven players into the same line-up, seemingly putting team chemistry in the backseat.

An excellent example of this is his recent centre-back conundrums. Jan Vertonghen and Toby Alderweireld have formed a sturdy partnership together at the heart of Tot-

tenham's defence.

But because of Belgium's lack of full-backs, Wilmots was awkwardly positioning the two players out wide and playing Vincent Kompany and Nicolas Lombaerts through the middle.

Defensively it didn't hurt too much but was a real Achilles heel of theirs when trying to possess the ball and play high up the pitch.

Even with Kompany and Lombaerts injured, Wilmots persisted with that logic, playing Jason Denayer and Thomas Vermaelen through the middle in a recent friendly draw against Finland.

That said, it's just one piece of the puzzle as Wilmots looks to form a talented squad into a highly effective unit at Euro 2016.



## Adam Rant



The week's big talking points  
with ADAM LEITCH

# Exciting prospect or a step too far?

Plenty to ponder  
as Saints search  
for new manager

**TAKING over at Saints must be a curious proposition for potential applicants.**

It is both an exciting prospect and potentially a poisoned chalice at the same time.

There is little doubt that the job is attractive in so many ways.

Saints are a go-ahead club, who are riding the crest of a wave and can offer European football, as well as a chance to make a big impact and move on to better things. That's certainly what Mauricio Pochettino and Ronald Koeman have found.

The club also remain ambitious and hungry for further success, and pump huge resources into their behind-the-scenes infrastructure to try and give it the best chance of happening.

Add to that a commitment to spend big on producing exciting young players, and quite simply a multi-million pound contract to manage in the best league in the world, and there are plenty of tempters.

No doubt Les Reed has been inundated with CVs and calls from agents ever since it became clear that Koeman was moving to Everton.

However, there are likely to be a few put off as well, certainly those who consider themselves as having a long career still to serve and who have the luxury of being picky.

Koeman may have left for Everton purely for the amount of money he was going to get. That is possible.

But it could also be the case that he simply felt that he had taken Saints as far as he could without significant further investment, and therefore his stock would fall rather than rise further if he didn't go now.

In that scenario he logically feels that Everton can offer him that next step, presumably as their billionaire owner looks ready to throw his money at the club.

That throws up an intriguing dilemma to a potential manager – are the last few years as good as it gets for Saints?

Koeman always maintained that while it was not impossible to break the top four, as Leicester proved, without huge sums of money it is certainly not something that will happen at all often for clubs like Saints.

Had Koeman had a wobble and been sacked, the Saints job oddly would seem far more attractive.



Replacing Ronald Koeman is a difficult task for Saints

If there is a feeling that the only way is up, and that a fair measure of success will be applied, then there is nothing to lose.

If the feeling is that Koeman has achieved the maximum that could realistically be expected of him,

then, logically, there is not much room for manoeuvre. Just standing still would be a huge achievement, let alone moving forward. In football that all adds up to a move backwards being more likely, and, inevitably, no matter how reasonable that might

be in the cold light of day, it won't go down well.

There is certainly plenty to ponder for the club in making this decision, and for potential future managers. It will be interesting to see how it all plays out.

## Shara ban deserved

MARIA Sharapova seems incensed that she has been handed a two-year ban for doping, but the report into her actions could not be more damning.

All of the evidence pointed towards her knowing that taking Meldonium had some kind of positive impact on her performance and she certainly wasn't keen on telling that many people she was taking it.

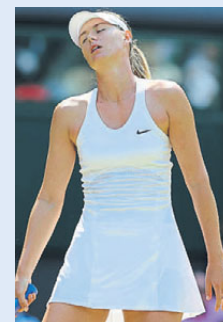
It didn't paint an innocent picture.

Being generous for a moment, it was the most monumental oversight for such a high profile star, able to afford an entourage and the best medical advice money can buy.

Being less generous, she has got the ban her actions deserve.

Sharapova is hoping to have the length of the ban reduced, but what sort of message would that send out?

Perhaps, deep down, she has some justification for feeling aggrieved, but from the outside looking in and seeing the report it is hard to work out why.



Maria Sharapova

## Hoping for safe event

OF ALL the hopes and excitement for a major summer tournament, the greatest wish of all must be that Euro 2016 takes place peacefully.

We have all had to get used to increased security at football matches, including at St Mary's, after the events of the last year or so.

It's always an unwelcome reminder of the world we live in these days and the dangers that exist.

Anywhere that there is a large gathering of people could be a target for a terrorist attack, but if ever an event, and a country, needed something to pass off peacefully then it is France right now.



# Testway derby a battle for honours at Boleyn Ground

**THE Champions League Final wasn't the only local derby played at a neutral ground at the end of May.**

Two local Testway Youth League teams took their rivalry to West Ham's soon-to-be demolished Boleyn Ground, writes Aaron Grif-fin.

The generosity of West Ham's honorary president and former chairman, Terry Brown, facilitated Winchester's own version of 'El Clásico' between Littleton Leopards JFC and Worthys YFC under 15s at this venue.

The Boleyn ground has been home to West Ham since 1904. Next season, they move to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park at Stratford.

## Enhance

Although the crowd for the under-15s game was somewhat smaller than that for the final Premier League game v Manchester United on May 10, the pre-game drinks reception hosted by West Ham's president seemed to enhance the voice of both sets of supporters.

Players were treated to a full match day experience – warm up with music over the tannoy, dressing rooms and emergence from the tunnel to the sound of the iconic *I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles* – West Ham's anthem since the 1920's.

The game itself was a competitive tussle.

The near perfect surface allowed for a passing game that West Ham's legends would approve of.

That the Littleton team came out on top, with goals from Ben Fox (2), Alfred Lawrence (2), Jacob Enness and Samuel Griffin, was somewhat secondary to the occasion.



The Littleton (above) and Worthys (below) teams line up before their clash at West Ham United FC. Right – action from the game



## England better on the Beeb!

ENGLAND are likely to perform better at Euro 2016 when their games are broadcast on the BBC if the last 20 years are anything to go by.

A study has found that the Three Lions have produced much better results during tournaments over the last two decades when shown on the Beeb rather than ITV.

So while there have been many contributing factors to England's dismal performances in major competitions over the last two decades, from Urs Meier to Cristiano Ronaldo's wink, just how much has the Three Lions' fate been affected by which channel their game was broadcast on?

Going back as far as Euro 96, the data suggests England perform better on the BBC, having a win ratio of 55 per cent from the 18 games exclusively shown on the channel, compared to a 25 per cent win rate on ITV.

Both percentages improve when factoring in shared coverage, with the BBC going to 57 per cent and ITV moving up to 32.

So, what does that mean for Euro 2016?

Well, England's Group B opener against Russia and final game against Slovakia are on ITV, meaning we should probably expect at least one draw.

History suggests the Three Lions will win their outing on the BBC against Wales.



Roy Hodgson

## London Theatre Saturday Night

**Superb value West End show break**  
2 days from £123.00, departs until Dec 2016

The opportunity to see a West End hit show of your choice, staying in a luxurious hotel with leisure facilities.

### Highlights & inclusions

- A choice of Saturday evening performance tickets for the West End show of your choice
- Leisure time in a four-star luxury hotel
- Free time in London for shopping and sightseeing
- One night's bed and English breakfast accommodation in a four-star luxury hotel in Greater London
- Coach travel from the local area
- Escorted by a friendly tour manager

Reader Offer

**Newmarket Holidays**

SOUTHERN  
**Daily Echo**

WINNER  
BRITISH TRAVEL AWARDS  
2015  
BEST LARGE ESCORTED  
TOURS HOLIDAY COMPANY

Call **0330 160 7751**

QUOTE  
NCS

Visit **www.newmarket.travel/ncs11454**

These holidays are organised and operated by Newmarket Promotions Ltd. ABTA V787X. Subject to availability. Single supplements apply. Standard phone charges.

**ABTA**  
Travel with confidence



# Non league FOOTBALL



Lewis Benson

## Andover ace Lewis thanks fans for support after Salisbury switch

ANDOVER Town captain Lewis Benson has thanked fans for their support after agreeing a move to newly-promoted Southern League side Salisbury.

The talented midfielder has agreed to play at the Ray Mac next season after holding talks with Whites' boss Steve Claridge at the end of this campaign, writes James Robinson.

Benson will be reunited with ex-Town star Claudio Herbert, who has recently agreed to stay with the

Whites as they prepare for life in the Southern One South & West.

But Benson, whose 18 goals helped Town to fourth in the Sydenhams Premier last term, says he is "genuinely saddened" to be leaving the Portway.

"I would like to give a huge thank you to all involved at Andover Town FC," he said.

"In particular, I would like to thank Neil Benson, Stuart Barlow and John Ward for the help they have given me during my three seasons at the club.

"I would also like to give a special thank you to all of the fans at Andover and a special mention to my teammates from last season who made the decision to move an even harder one.

"As well as being a fantastic group of players, our team spirit was excellent and I am genuinely saddened to be leaving."

Explaining his reasoning for the move, he added: "Despite the clear ambitions of the club to push for promotion next year, I felt the timing was

right for me to progress and Salisbury presented an opportunity too good to miss out on.

"I wish the club all the success for the future and genuinely hope they gain the promotion they deserve next season."

Manager Neil Benson wished his star man good luck ahead of their new campaign.

He said: "Andover gave Lewis full permission to speak to several clubs up the football pyramid at the end of

# Ex-Winchester frontman is 'marquee signing' for Town

### Alresford snap up Romsey-based attacker Dunn

**ALRESFORD Town's new boss Richard Luffman has masterminded a coup by getting Geoff Dunn on board at Arlebury Park.**

The attacking bright spark left Southern League outfit Winchester City for AFC Portchester last October in the search of more game time.

He went on to score 12 times in 31 appearances, including 19 starts, for the Wicor Rec club.

But the Romsey-based forward is moving closer to home next season to become part of the new Alresford revolution under former Otterbourne boss Luffman.

Referring to Dunn as his marquee signing, Luffman said: "Portchester wanted to keep Geoff and Winchester asked him to go back but he wanted to come to us. We are not paying money but he was keen to come across.

### Potent front three

"With him, Tom Sands and Steve Hall, it gives us a potent front three.

"Geoff scored 15 goals for Winchester when they finished second in the Wessex Premier (in 2014-15) and he averaged one in three for Portchester last season."

Liam Hall, who was a professional player in Scotland, has also climbed aboard — from AFC Stoneham. Luffman said: "If we can get Liam fit, we will have one of the best centre-halves around.

"We have also signed left-back Aaron Blaxall from Fleet Town and hopefully we can persuade Simon Everett (Alresford's captain and midfielder) to stay.

"We have got a couple of other irons in the fire and, if we can land them, we will be laughing."

Despite Alresford finishing second-bottom of the Sydenhams Premier last season, the indications are they will be relieved from relegation provided clubs vote in favour at the Wessex annual meeting on June 21.



Geoff Dunn, right, in action for Winchester against Whitchurch in 2014

"It is a bit of luck but we will take it," said Luffman.

"It makes it a bit more difficult but I think we are ready for the Wessex Premier.

"We will not be there just to make up the numbers.

### Behind the scenes

"We have got about 12 players from Otterbourne and we will be adding six or seven to that.

"We have done loads behind the

scenes too. We have upgraded the changing rooms, a manager's room has gone in, there are new goals, corner flags and a bespoke new kit from the people who do Sutton United's. The club will be well run."

In addition, Alresford have welcomed former Sholing Reserves boss Adrian Grijincu as first-team coach. Grijincu, nicknamed Victor, used to play Sunday football with Luffman.

Several pre-season friendlies are in the pipeline, including a trip to Win-

chester City on Saturday, July 9 and another to Sutton Common Rovers at Sutton United's ground on July 16.

On Wednesday (7.30pm), Alresford are holding a meeting for potential new players and people wanting to get involved with the club.

Anyone interested should call Luffman beforehand on 07769 113556.

● Have you got a local football story for us? Email [wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk](mailto:wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk).

## Attack trio are boost for Bem

**BEMERTON** have signed a trio of forward-thinking players.

Striker Scott Joyce has returned to Western Way from Sydenhams Premier rivals Brockenhurst and will be joined by two bright attacking midfielders in Connor Doe and Jake Rawkins.

Wideman Rawkins, formerly of Sarum Youth, has climbed aboard from AFC Totton, where he gained experience in the Southern One South & West.

He spent the latter part of 2015/16 dual-signed with Totton & Eling in Sydenhams One, banging in 11 goals in just nine appearances for the Millers.

Doe ended last season with Blackfield & Langley, having impressed for Poppies for much of the campaign.

## Tray back

**EX-HAMWORTHY** United manager Shane Traynor has joined Wimborne Town's coaching staff.

Traynor shocked the Sydenhams Premier Division outfit by quitting three-and-a-half weeks ago, stating he felt he had taken the Hammers as far as he could.

New Wimborne boss Matty Holmes, who worked alongside Traynor in the AFC Bournemouth Academy, moved to bring him back into football with an agreement finalised on Wednesday night.



Scott Joyce



## Non league FOOTBALL



Luke Holmes

## Family affair was poser for new boss

NEW Wimborne boss Matty Holmes had mixed feelings about taking his son Luke back to Cuthbury from Dorchester Town.

The switch represents a drop in divisions from the Southern Premier to the South & West for the former Cherries prospect and Holmes senior admitted: "In some respects I was keen for Luke to stay put.

"He started his time at Dorchester really well, but didn't finish the season as he would have liked.

"There was no pressure from me, especially as Luke remains as keen as ever to play at the highest possible level. I just think he felt it was time to get back to developing his football."

Striker Toby Holmes – no relation – has also left the Avenue Stadium Magpies to join their Cuthbury counterparts.

"Mark (Jermyn, Dorchester manager) hadn't offered Toby anything and, when I first got the Wimborne job, he was one of my first targets," said Holmes.

"They (Wimborne) played James Stokoe up there at times last season.

"He can do a job anywhere but prefers midfield.

"I tried to speak to Mark Ford, but he decided to go to Shaftesbury."

Centre-half Sam Davidson and flexible attacker Sam Bayston have agreed to stay on at Cuthbury.

They join contracted trio Scott Arnold, Billy Maybury and Stokoe, as well as non-contract signing Jamie Davidson.

## Spitfires fly north

EASTLEIGH are heading north of the border in their build-up to the new National League campaign.

The Spitfires have fixed up two pre-season games in Scotland, visiting Premiership club Hamilton on July 12 (7.45pm) followed by East Kilbride of the Lowland League on Saturday, July 16 (3pm).

Highlights of the home friendly programme are visits from Barnet on Tuesday, July 26 and Northampton the following Saturday.

Northampton have just been promoted as League Two champions, while Barnet, the 2014/15 Conference kings, finished 15th on their return to the Football League.

Yeovil Town are the latest Football League club to be lined up for a friendly at Southern League new boys Salisbury.

The Glovers will visit the Ray Mac on July 26 (7.30pm) and join Bristol Rovers and Portsmouth on the list of League names ready to take on Steve Claridge's Sydenhams Premier champions.

Portsmouth will not be making their annual trip to Privett Park to take on Gosport, but insist there has been no fall-out.

Pompey chief executive Mark Catlin said: "Pre-seasons are totally down to the manager. If that's not part of the programme, that's a decision for the manager."

PRE-SEASON FRIENDLIES 2016

Tuesday, July 5: AFC Stoneham v Eastleigh

Thursday, July 7: Banbury Utd v Eastleigh

Saturday, July 9: Salisbury v Bristol Rovers (1.00), Winchester City v Alresford Town.

Tuesday, July 12: Chichester City v Salisbury.

Wed, July 13: Hamilton v Eastleigh

Sat, July 16: Basingstoke v Salisbury, East Kilbride v Eastleigh, Sutton Common v Alresford.

Tues, July 19: Salisbury v Portsmouth (7.00), Weymouth v Eastleigh

Thurs, July 21: Downton v Salisbury XI (7.30)

Friday, July 22: Eastleigh v Poole Town.

Tues, July 26: Eastleigh v Barnet, Salisbury v Yeovil Town (7.30)

Sat, July 30: Eastleigh v Northampton, Salisbury v Weymouth

\*Email your pre-season friendlies to [wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk](mailto:wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk)

# Ex-Cadnam boss Froukhians excited by new test at Hythe

## Wessex One's Watersiders opt for co-managers

**FORMER Cadnam United boss Matt Froukhians is the new co-manager of Hythe & Dibden.**

The Totton-based 33-year-old will partner Scott Johnston at the Watersiders' helm heading into the new Sydenhams Wessex League Division One season.

The pair know each other well having sat in opposing dugouts when Froukhians managed Cadnam and Johnston was at Forest Town.

They will work hand in hand at Clayfields with experienced coach Phil Swainston and new goalkeeper coach Jon Page.

A former Downton and Romsey Town midfielder/defender, Froukhians saw out his playing days as player-manager at Cadnam, successfully leading them through the Southampton junior leagues into the Southampton Premier and onwards into the Hampshire League. They reached the Hampshire Intermediate Cup final in 2014.

He spent last season running Totton & Eling Reserves, where they fell just a point short of the Wyvern Combination Division One title.

Hythe first approached Froukhians after previous manager Gary Wheatcroft had stepped down in March – but he wanted to see the job out at T&E.

"As soon as the season finished I had a chat with Scott – I was desperate for a first-team job after a year in the Wyvern," said Froukhians.

"Scott and I are young managers who talk on a daily basis and Phil Swainston will be a very level-headed guy in the dugout. He is someone I am sure we will take a lot of good advice from.

"Phil is very similar to Shawn Kitcher, who was fantastic at Totton & Eling and brought a lot of good, young players into the club with him. Hythe also have a lot of good, young players who all look up to Phil."



New Hythe &amp; Dibden manager Matt Froukhians

Several of Froukhians' tried-and-trusted troops will follow him to Clayfields, including "level-headed" former Cadnam goalkeeper and captain Greg Snelgrove, centre-back Dan Gain, defender Matt Storer, midfielder Dean Lavelle, left-back Lewis Brown and ex-Ottebourne striker Ash Hewer who is on his way back from a knee operation and should be ready for action again around September/October time.

"We have got a few more potential signings lined up but we do not want to go down the route of paying

people," Froukhians said. "We want people who want to play for the club, people who will make the club feel special.

"Hythe already have some good very good players like Tom Switzer, Terry Cox and Steve Green and this is a clean sheet for everyone.

"The lads who come over will have to work to get into the side and the same goes for the lads who did so well for Hythe last season."

Another big attraction for Froukhians is Hythe's refreshingly down-to-earth chairman Dave Cox.

"In the couple of meetings I have had with Dave, he has come across as a very black-and-white character," he said. "If he is not happy with something, he will look you in the eye and tell you straight, which is perfect for Scott and I.

"Dave has invested a lot of time and money in the club and he deserves to have things done his way.

"There is a lot going on behind the scenes too. Drainage work is being done, the changing facilities are looking fantastic and there is sponsorship coming in."





# Non league FOOTBALL



Carl Poore.

## Striking the balance over recruitment is key for Hamworthy boss

NEW boss Carl Poore insists he will not flood Hamworthy United's squad with Poole Town youngsters as he bids to strike "the right balance" in the Sydenhams Premier Division.

Poore played several Dolphins rookies during his time in charge of divisional rivals Verwood and has already sought the assistance of Tatnam counterpart Tom Killick.

But former Poole captain Poore explained: "Tom will help out if needed, but we do need to make sure we have

the right balance.

"Anyone who comes in needs to be with us for a while. I don't want to upset the group and they need to improve the team.

"I can't have anyone who won't stick around and have a drink with the lads. It is about making sure we have the right people as much as the right players."

The key difference this time is that Poore will have a playing budget to work with at the County Ground.

"We do have to make sure we get the right people who are not just there for the money," he added.

"Some people need the money they earn from football and you don't mind that as long as they earn it.

"It is striking the right balance and our first priority is to get the players enjoying their football, that is the best way to get results."

Poore, who succeeds Shane Traynor at Hamworthy said the opportunity was too good to turn down.

"Hamworthy have had some good managers over the years," he reflected. "The likes of Alex Pike, Phil Simkin and Simon Browne have gone on to higher levels.

"As a manager, you always want to test yourself.

"But I am keen to stay for a while and make sure we take the club forward.

"The club is on the up and Steve (Harvey, chairman) is very committed."

# We won't need to spend big to win league, boast Priory

Just a couple of players needed now, says boss

**CHRISTCHURCH** boss Ollie Cherrett has targeted the Sydenhams Wessex League Division One title next season and insists he does not need a budget to take top spot.

Cherrett took the Hurn Bridge hot-seat in September following the sacking of Adie Arnold and immediately set his sights on the top two.

Under Cherrett and right-hand man Chris Hart, Priory took 49 points from 29 matches and finished sixth, *writes Andy Mitchell.*

Despite Priory falling just short of a sustained challenge, the ex-Merley Cobham Sports manager saw enough to stand by his current crop.

"The players worked hard and did everything we asked of them," he said. "We are going to look to add a couple of players. We need to freshen it up a little bit but, on the whole, I think we have the players here to achieve our objective.

"Maybe it was a bit ambitious to go after it at the first attempt from where we were. When we consider that, Chris and I are rightly proud of what has been achieved and I think the club should be as well.

### Challenging

"With one or two faces and a good pre-season, I expect us to be up there challenging and our goal is to win the league, that is for sure.

"The big thing for us is our facilities. When players meet us at the ground, it sells the club to them straight away and things are so professional behind the scenes.

"We have not got a budget and never will have but there are players who do not get paid who are quite capable.

"The best single players will not get you out of this league — it is about being the best team, and it is down to us as a management team to pull that together.

"Did Portland have the best individ-



Christchurch boss Ollie Cherrett

uals last season? Possibly not. Were they the best team? By far, and that was why they won the league.

"That is the secret and if we can stick together, get in players who want to play for Christchurch and are proud to wear the shirt, we can get back to where we belong."

But while Cherrett was bullish over his team's chances, he warned there would be no favours arriving from elsewhere.

"Christchurch is known as a Wes-

sex Premier club so there is pressure on us as a management team, and on the players, to get back there," he said.

### Massive influence

"While having nice facilities is a good thing, other teams also like playing on our pitch.

"They will raise their game and how we combat that will have a massive influence on how things pan out. "Shaftesbury are coming up and

will be strong, as will the teams coming down.

"It is not going to be easy and nobody is going to say 'You are Christchurch, you deserve to win games' — it is up to us to prove that.

"A good start is vital and, hopefully, momentum can take us from there.

"The hard work has already started in terms of talking to our players. Over the next couple of weeks, we will look at which players to bring in."

## Ray pens two-year Town deal

**SKIPPER** David Ray has re-signed for Southern Premier new boys Basingstoke Town on a two-year deal — despite relegation from the National League South.

Ray originally joined Town in 2002 as a 17-year-old and made over 200 appearances in his first spell with the club. He returned to the Dragons in February 2013 and is now theynchpin of their defence.

A born leader, he is an ideal role model for the young side manager Terry Brown is building.

Brown said: "David brings so much quality and experience to the side at this level.

### Great

"He will be great at helping the young defenders and, when he returned at the end of last season from injury, he proved what a difference he makes — as we kept a number of clean sheets."

Town have also made two new signings in midfielder Richie Whittingham and centre-half Joe Gater.

Whittingham joins from Southern One South & West side Marlow having previously been with AFC Bournemouth, Yeovil Town, AFC Wimbledon and Hayes & Yeading. Gater is no stranger to the Southern Premier having spent three months on loan at Chesham United from parent club Barnet last term. He has since been released by The Bees.



David Ray.



# Non league FOOTBALL



Wimborne, 1992. Back, from left, Steve Richardson, Nicky Bridle, Robbie Beacham, Kevin Leonard, Mark Allan, Andy Taplin, Bradley Homer, Alex Pike (manager), Nick Jennings (general manager). Front, Phil Langdown, Simon Lynn, Trevor Ames, Dominic Barrett, Tom Killick and Jamie Sturgess

## FA Vase-winning boss leads the tributes to 'father figure'

### Wimborne legend mourns Jennings

**ALEX Pike led the tributes to "father figure" Nick Jennings, his right-hand man during Wimborne Town's FA Vase triumph.**

Jennings, a winger who achieved legendary status at Portsmouth with 50 goals in 227 appearances, died suddenly last weekend at the age of 70.

At the end of a professional career in which he made more than 400 appearances during spells at Plymouth Argyle, Pompey, Aldershot and Exeter City, he worked as a probation officer, a role which saw him cross paths with Pike during his time in the police, *writes Andy Mitchell*.

Jennings later took the Magpies' hot-seat and stayed on as general manager when Pike stepped up from being his assistant, with the duo inspiring a Wessex League, FA Vase and Dorset Senior Cup treble in 1992.

"I spoke to his widow and, to be honest, we did not get very far — I could not stop crying," said Gosport Borough boss Pike.

"He was a legend in the true meaning of the word. I was running a Bournemouth Division Five side and I got him to play for us in 1978.

"My dad died at an early age and Nick would not mind me saying he became a surrogate father to me. He treated me brilliantly in football and in life. I will always be indebted to him because he was always there.

"The only reason I am where I am



Wimborne celebrate their 1992 FA Vase win. Nick Jennings is right of centre

today is because he stuck out his neck when he resigned as first-team manager.

"He told Brian Maidment (then-chairman) he did not need to look for another manager; that I was ready, even though the only experience I had at that level was as Nick's assistant.

"We won the treble and I did that because I wanted repay Nick's faith in me. He always had faith in me and I will never forget it.

"He was always sensible and level-headed. Nothing seemed to fluster

him and, as a manager, I found that frustrating at times. He never had the highs or the lows and I think I learned that from him.

"He was the embodiment of treating people the way you would want to be treated yourself and he taught me an awful lot.

"We would often go out for a drink and he would come down to watch Gosport. He would still be there to give his advice whenever I needed it. So many of us will have many great memories and he will never be forgotten, that is for sure."

Poole Town manager Tom Killick, Wimborne's two-goal hero at Wembley, said: "Nick was one of those rare people who had both elements you want in football management.

"The players had a tremendous amount of affection for him but also respected his expertise in the game.

"His partnership with Alex was quite formidable and Alex would readily admit Nick was his mentor when he was new to it all.

"Nick was a lovely man and, socially, he was great company."

### Universal supporter

SHOLING will be playing at the grandly named Universal Stadium next season.

Jim Brady of Universal Plumbing Supplies, based in Lodge Road, Portswood, was quick off the mark when the naming rights to the Boatmen's Portsmouth Road ground became available at the end of last season.

His backing provides valued support to the 2014 FA Vase winners who finished runners-up in the Sydenhams Premier Division last term.

Brady, whose company have succeeded Silverlake as stadium sponsors, said: "It's exciting times ahead for everyone and the thought of helping a local football club was very appealing. Also, it would be nice to see the club do what they achieved back in 2014.

"Sholing is a good, friendly, family club and play very good football. It made it easy for me to buy into the club at this level and be a part of a club that is looking to move forward, hopefully with more local support from the small businesses buying into the affordable packages that Sholing have to offer rather than some of the large corporate deals other clubs rely on.

"With the opportunities and ambitions Sholing FC have, there is no reason they can't follow on and become the next Eastleigh in near future.

"The Wessex League is the ideal opportunity for smaller businesses to get involved and be part of a good level of grassroots football, so Sholing FC was ideal for me to join and I'm looking forward to help grow the club."

Chairman Gerry Roberts said: "On behalf of everybody at Sholing FC, I am delighted to welcome Jim and Universal Plumbing Supplies into the Sholing family.

"We are very proud to be associated with a local, expanding company who have the same ideals that we have.

"We all look forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship".

Sholing are looking to work closely with many local businesses in SO19 and surrounding areas.

Email [secretary@sholingfc.com](mailto:secretary@sholingfc.com) for further details.



Jim Brady



# Non league FOOTBALL



## Golden Boot winner Sam: Why I left one City for another ...!

### Bennett's arrival prompted decision

**SAM Wilson admits the arrival of hitman Justin Bennett prompted his departure from promoted Sydenhams Premier champions Salisbury.**

Having rifled in 40 goals for the Whites last season, the 21-year-old former Eastleigh marksman believed he had done enough to warrant a shot at the Southern One South & West.

But Wilson, who this week signed a two-year deal for Winchester City, felt the writing was on the wall when Salisbury boss Steve Claridge brought in Gosport's record goalscorer Bennett.

Speaking to *The Pink's* sister paper *The (Salisbury) Journal*, Southampton-based Wilson admitted: "I was a bit disappointed when Justin came in as I thought I wouldn't get a chance.

"He's a good signing and I understand why the club have done it.

"I spoke to Steve (Claridge) and he said he couldn't turn down the opportunity. I would love to have stayed, but it wasn't meant to be.

"I got on well with the fans and there was a good dressing room. I leave with a heavy heart."

Wilson, who bagged three hat-tricks last term including a four-goal haul against Poppies, is the second striker to leave the Ray Mac this summer following the departure of ex-AFC Totton and Sholing man Ashley Jarvis to Moneyfields.

Reflecting on Wilson's decision, Claridge said: "Sam was great for us last season as being the league's top scorer with 40 goals tells you. But I think he wanted to be sure he would play more games than I could guarantee him with Justin Bennett coming to the club.

"I understand that and wish him well at his new club. I am sure everyone at the club, along with the supporters, will offer a big thank you for all his efforts."

Two new faces have arrived at Old Sarum - 26-year-old midfielder Lewis Benson from Andover Town and defender Josh Warren from AFC Portchester.

Warren, 21, began his career with the Portsmouth FC Academy and had a spell with Bognor Regis Town prior to joining Portchester.

Winger Claudio Herbert and defender Steve Walker are among the latest Salisbury players to agree terms for next season, but ex-Saints youngster Dan Demkiv is moving on.

Demkiv made 42 appearances for the Whites last season and scored seven goals.

### Wilson has big boots to fill at Winchester ...

**SAM Wilson has big boots to fill at Winchester City.**

But director of football Dave Malone says no one is expecting the 21-year-old to emulate the extraordinary exploits of his predecessor Warren Bentley.

In just two seasons with Winchester, Bentley hit in excess of 100 goals, including 57 in all competitions last term.

Now, with Bentley moving up two leagues with Gosport Borough, Wilson has been welcomed back to the Denplan City Ground on a two-year contract hoping to net goals galore for Winchester in the Southern One South & West.

Wilson was no slouch himself last term, finding the back of the net 40 times to spearhead Salisbury's promotion push and be crowned the 'golden boot' of the Sydenhams Premier Division.

He would like to have stayed with Salisbury, but feared his opportunities would be limited by the arrival of Gosport's all-time record goalscorer Justin Bennett at Old Sarum.

It was a similar story in his previous stay with City two seasons ago when he was loath to play second fiddle to prolific former Alresford strike duo Bentley and Zach Glasspool.

That pairing has since broken up with Glasspool leaving City for Sholing in March before Bentley penned a two-year contract at Gosport.

Winchester's director Dave Malone said: "We needed someone to score goals and I've known Sam for ages. Paul (Masters, manager) knows him too and we know what he can and can't do.

"He's a totally different player to Warren and we don't expect him to score as many goals, but if he weighs in with 25-35, that would be brilliant.

"With Warren gone we will probably go back to playing a different way. Warren was a one-off and, to a certain extent, we had to play our game around him.

"Sam had a bit of a rough deal when he was with us previously and felt his chances would have been limited had he stayed. But he's a goalscorer, that's for sure, and he did well for Salisbury. We spoke to several players, but it suited Sam to move to us."

Winchester were this week also close to completing the signing of midfielder/striker Stuart Green from Bognor Regis Town.

Not to be confused with City's former Alresford midfielder of the same name, this one has previously played for Romsey Town, Moneyfields and Gosport.

City, meanwhile, have had an enquiry from Petersfield Town for ex-Fawley and AFC Totton defender Rob Flooks, but Malone stressed: "He's under contract and we wouldn't let him go."





## Non league FOOTBALL



25/08/14 – Ben Wright.

## Wright pens two-year deal at Gosport

BEN Wright has penned a two-year deal for Gosport Borough.

The well-travelled former Eastleigh striker has completed a move from National League South rivals Maidenhead United and signed a two-year deal at the Aerial Direct Stadium.

Basingstoke-based Wright joins a potent-looking Borough strike force already supplemented by Warren Bentley (Winchester City) and Chris Flood (Basingstoke Town).

Since starting at Basingstoke, Wright,

27, has done the rounds with the likes of Peterborough United, Crawley Town, Braintree, Forest Green and Salisbury City.

While on loan from Salisbury, his goals were instrumental in getting Eastleigh across the line in the 2013/14 Conference South title fight.

Prior to joining Maidenhead, he had a spell with Havant & Waterlooville.

● FORMER Eastleigh frontman Stuart Fleetwood is on the move again.

The 30-year-old, who spent the major-

ity of last season playing for ex-Spitfires boss Paul Doswell at Sutton, has joined Bath City of the National League South.

He is the Romans' third summer signing, following Weymouth midfielder George Rigg and former Bristol City loanee defender Billy Murphy into Twer-ton Park.

Bath boss Gary Owers said: "Stuart is a striker with a proven record and I am confident he can come in and add something with his professionalism, ability and experience."

## Bid to run reserve team to help youth

WHEN Colin Plumhoff took over as manager of Michelmersh & Timsbury FC in January, it was all about seeing out the season and getting prepared for the 2016/17 campaign.

Now moves are afoot this summer to launch a new reserve side to aid youth development.

Michelmersh run four men's teams but are looking to add a fifth side in the Hampshire Combination League.

"We had a meeting with the league and the signs looked positive, which will be a great addition to the first team," reported Plumhoff.

"Michelmersh already have a Junior 4 side and two vets teams and having a reserve team playing combination football will help to progress their youth development."

Next season the club will run two under-18 teams and Plumhoff has already been impressed with the maturity and ability of the youngsters.

"Over the course of this coming season, between myself and the youth managers, we will be introducing the youth players into the reserves," he explained.

### Progress

"With the support from the senior players, I'm confident it will help the youth players to progress."

As for the senior side, Plumhoff is confident they will be pushing for honours this coming season.

Having struggled at the foot of the Hampshire Premier League Division One last term, he feels they have now turned a corner and has already had several players contact him regarding the upcoming campaign.

Two pre-season club games have been arranged for June 18 and 25 for existing players and potential new recruits.

Michelmersh are also casting their nets for a reserve team manager, providing the league accept the club's application.

"Things are going very well," said the boss. "We had a presentation/race night and raised £400. Nutlands Carpet Accessories donated warm-up balls and I'm very grateful for their support."

Anyone interested in managing M&T's reserves, playing for the club or sponsoring them can contact Plumhoff on 07949 066946 or at burridgeafc12@hotmail.co.uk

# Amesbury's new manager relishes top-flight challenge

## Bonnymead men aim for cup run and consolidation

**JIM Macey is relishing the prospect of being at the forefront of Amesbury Town's new challenge.**

The newly appointed manager has been busy behind the scenes preparing the Blues for a new chapter in the Sydenhams Wessex League Premier Division.

Macey helped Gareth Horner, who he succeeded in the hot-seat, to win promotion with the Blues as Division One runners-up during his role as assistant-boss.

Job done, Horner promptly resigned from the post, bringing the curtain down on his three-and-a-half-year spell in charge.

"It was a great achievement working with Gareth Horner last season and getting Amesbury Town promoted to the Wessex Premier," said former Whitchurch United boss Macey.

"For this coming season, I have the foundations of a very good squad to work with and I am working hard to strengthen the team to be able to compete at the next level.

"We will be looking to consolidate in the league, hopefully enjoy a cup run and build on that moving forward.

"Having managed in this league before, I realise that there are top sides with good budgets and I am enthusiastic to compete against these sides again."

Adam Pearson, Craig Wheeler, Nic Turpin and Dan Beckles are among the players who have re-signed, while Curtis Angell, Grant Powell and Ali Brown have all penned deals for the Bonnymead Park outfit.

Horner, who bowed out after reclaiming the Salisbury Hospital Cup with a penalty-shootout win over Laverstock & Ford, felt it was the right thing to do.

"I cannot say it was an easy decision to make but for me and the club it was the right one," he said.

"This all happened three-and-a-half



Left — outgoing Amesbury Town boss Gareth Horner. Right — new manager Jim Macey

years ago in the back kitchen at the Rec after a team night out.

"The job was just to keep us going and get through the season but it has escalated slightly from there.

"We have improved each season and I have enjoyed every minute of my first crack at management. Jim coming on board has helped immensely this year."

Horner joined the Bonnymead Park outfit as a player in 1998 before taking over as head coach in December, 2012.

And although the father-of-two was delighted with his achievements, he admits a season of 50-plus games is too much of a commitment.

Horner said: "For me, the next step at the present time will be a step too far.

"We are talking two games a week, plus training, and with my new role at work, a new house and the family, with two children growing up fast, before I know it I would have missed the most important years with them and my wife Kelly.

"It is not to say I will not be involved at all with the club. I will be around as much as my time allows.

"Will it be easy not being in a dressing room for the first time in years? Probably not.

"But I will enjoy my break, some local football, the family and who knows what the future will bring."

Amesbury are looking for businesses to sponsor the club. Anyone interested can call chairman Steve Pearce on 07885 473380.



# Non league FOOTBALL



## Totton's pair of attacking stars sign new deals

TWO of AFC Totton's most exciting attacking stars are the latest to have agreed new terms for the upcoming Southern One South & West campaign.

Former Sholing winger Nick Watts is staying put, as is club stalwart Nathaniel Sherborne who is heading into his testimonial year.

"Sherbs won nearly all the awards at our presentation night and rightly so," said Hollick. "He had an excellent season and played nearly every game which was good considering he had a very bad injury a couple of years ago."

"The way Sherbs conducts himself makes him a breeze to deal with and a pleasure to work with."

"Wattsy did really well too. He's had a few niggly injuries over the years, but we got a lot

of games out of him.

"He's still only young and has a bit to learn, but he has the potential to be electrifying on his day."

Sherborne, who is approaching his tenth season with the club, left the presentation evening weighed down with prizes.

His outstanding 2015/16 season earned him the manager's player, supporters' player and Stags Voice player-of-the-season awards.

Early bird tickets are now on sale for next season, priced £140 adults, £85 seniors/concessions and £38 under-16s. Full prices will come into effect as of Thursday, June 23 (£160 adults, £105 seniors/concessions and £45 under-16s).

Matchday prices for 2016/17 will be £9 adults, £6 concessions (including students) and £3 under-16s. An 'adult plus under-16' ticket will be available for £11 per match.

## Deal for Dawson

EASTLEIGH'S summer rebuilding project continued apace this week with the arrival of former Wigan and Leicester winger Adam Dawson.

Having parted company with Lee Cook, Josh Payne, Paul Reid, Jack Midson, Will Evans, Matty Fanimo, Kaid Mohamed and Lewis Noice at the end of last season, manager Chris Todd gave himself plenty of room for manoeuvre in the transfer market.

That scope increased when Jamie Turley turned down an improved Spitfires deal to join Newport County. And with former Portsmouth goalkeeper Michael Poke also looking for a new club and ex-Saints left-back Dan Harding on the transfer list, Todd still has cash for more signings.

"We've got 17 players at the minute, not including a couple of kids," he said. "We've definitely got another one or two coming in, hopefully in the next week or two."

At 23, Dawson is Eastleigh's youngest summer acquisition. Next up the age scale is 25-year-old midfielder Jake Howells, signed from Luton Town, followed by Adam Dugdale (28, from Morecambe), fellow defender Richard Duffy (30, from Port Vale) and midfielder David Pipe (32, from Forest Green Rovers).

What they all have in common is a wealth of Football League and/or National League experience.

Born in Bury, Dawson reportedly joined Liverpool from his hometown club for £100,000 at the age of 14 before signing his first professional contract with Wigan in 2011.

Spells at Accrington (loan), FC United of Manchester, Barrow and Nelson followed and he signed for Leicester in 2013.

With no first-team breakthrough forthcoming, he was loaned to Notts County, Nuneaton and Bristol Rovers. A permanent switch to Kidderminster followed last summer.



Adam Dawson



Mike Gosney (left) presents Nathaniel Sherborne (right) with the Stags Voice player-of-the-year award.

# Darnton out to find remedy for Totton's defensive ills

### Stags could have finished top half but for the errors

**AFC TOTTON boss Steve Hollick is backing new assistant manager Andy Darnton to help cure the team's defensive ills.**

With 73 goals scored last season, the Stags should have nailed a top-half finish in the Southern One South & West.

But 81 conceded really let the side down as they trailed home a somewhat disappointing 15th.

As a player, defending was Darnton's speciality and that know-how, allied to his experience and personality, was one of his big selling points when it came to replacing departed head coach Lee Burch as Hollick's No2.

Welcoming Darnton to the Testwood Stadium, Hollick said: "Ultimately defending was one of our downfalls last season. We weren't tight enough or strong enough at the back."

"Darts (Darnton) was one of the best centre-backs I've ever played with and one of the nice things about him is that he's got lots of strings to his bow."

### Good coach

"He's a very good coach, he's good in the dressing room and, hopefully,



Put it there! Andy Darnton (left) and Steve Hollick shake on their new partnership.

he can help to get us playing a bit more like a Southern League side.

"He's exactly what we require."

With more than 700 appearances at Southern and Ryman League level behind him as a player and another ten years in management and coach-

ing, Darnton knows the game inside out.

A former defender, he played for Gosport, Worthing, Fleet, Bashley, Waterlooville and Newport IoW during a distinguished non-League career.

Since hanging up his boots he has chalked up managerial experience with Winchester City, Bashley and Andover in the Southern League and coached Sydenhams Wessex clubs Romsey, Verwood and Christchurch.

More recently he had been helping out Martin Beck at Alresford Town.

"To get Andy on board is a real achievement for AFC Totton," smiled Hollick.

### Disciplinarian

"I know him from Bashley and was lucky to work under him at Romsey when he came in with Wayne Mew."

"He understands the leagues and he's a bit more old school and can be a disciplinarian when needed."

"He is someone I can lean on quite heavily."

Totton have yet to make any summer signings but Hollick is hopeful of strengthening his squad as pre-season approaches.

### Attractive proposition

While they need to keep tabs on their budget, the Stags' Testwood Stadium facilities and the new link-up with Matt Le Tissier Natural Coaching makes them an attractive proposition.

"We've got some of the best facilities in this league and locally," said Hollick. "Add that to the coaching side we're setting up and hopefully it'll be enough to attract a few new faces."

● Totton have announced their first two friendlies, both away, at Newport IoW (July 16, 3pm) and at Brockenhurst (July 26, 7.45pm).



# EURO 2016

Souvenir supplement  
in association with

**StanJames.com**  
For the bettors

**We're going to  
make French  
impressions**



**INSIDE ■ FILL-IN WALLCHART ■ PLAYERS TO WATCH ■ TEAM PROFILES ■ BETTING GUIDE**



# Fans' guide

Well-travelled England supporter **Jonathan Reed** shares his tips on how to make the most of this summer's football carnival in France

## France, here we come!

### TRAVEL ▶



NOTHING is certain in life but death and taxes. You can add to that travel websites being hit with a spike in bookings once the groups have been sorted for a major football championship.

It really does pay to shop around – even at this late stage.

Flying out from Heathrow to Marseille with BA on the Friday before the first group game, returning on the Sunday, will set you back more than £700. Ouch! But if you fly to Nice, you can save around £300 and take the train on the day of the game (about £40 return).

A friend who is heading to France this month has been to every England away match in the past five years. He is flying out via Amsterdam and paid around £150 return when the draw was made. This cheaper method can still pay off, so get on those search engines.

If you're planning to go to all three England group games, it will involve a fair amount of travelling. Marseille to Lens is more than 600 miles, and it's another 450 miles to get back to St Etienne for the Slovakia match.

An Interrail pass is ideal and allows a choice of unlimited travel on up to eight days within a one-month period. An adult can travel for four separate days at a cost of £179, but be warned – it's compulsory to pre-book seats on some trains.

If money is no object, why not go to France in style on a Victor private jet service package? A multi-leg trip, flying out from London and taking in the semi-finals in Lyon and Marseille before heading to Paris for the final on a six-seater Citation CJ3 jet, will set your group back in the region of £14,000. Not exactly cheap, but definitely a trip to remember.



### TICKETS

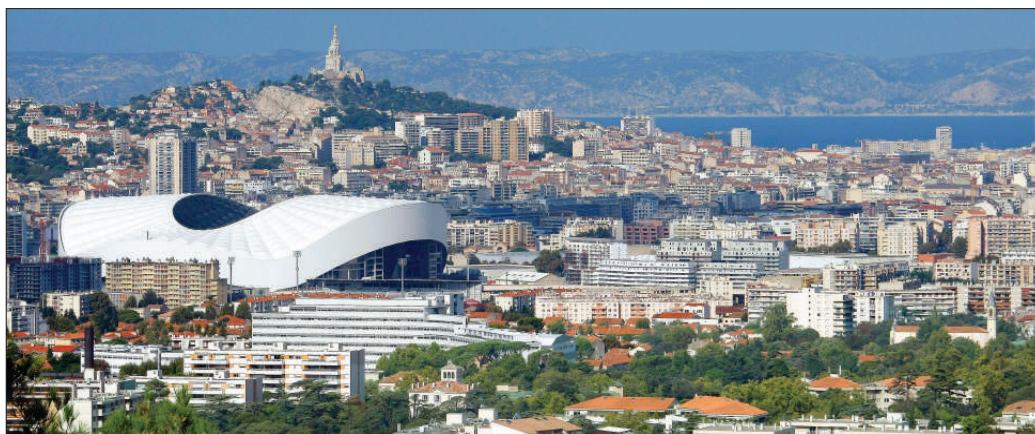
ENGLAND'S total allocation for the three group games is 23,520, although the FA had to return tickets for the opener with Russia after failing to sell its allocation of nearly 11,000.

If you haven't secured your tickets through official channels such as the FA or UEFA, your options at this stage are to go down the secondary selling site route or buy outside the ground.

Secondary sites, such as StubHub and Viagogo, have tickets available for the England v Russia match from about £120. Not surprisingly, the England v Wales clash at the 35,000, Stade Bollaert-Delelis in Lens is attracting the greatest demand, and will set you back at least £350.

If you decide to wait until match day to get a ticket, then you won't be on your own. A recent Foreign Office survey of home nations fans planning to travel to France showed that more than half (57 per cent) do not have tickets. Of those, 29 per cent plan to buy at the ground.

Buying from a tout really is pot luck. A friend of mine ended up schmoozing in an African FA hospitality box at the Romania game in Toulouse in 1998... all for the princely sum of £90.



### WHAT TO DO

MARSEILLE is France's second biggest city and at its heart is the Vieux Port, where many of the best bars and restaurants can be found.

In 2013, Marseille was the European Capital of Culture and it really is an atmospheric place. The Chateau d'If, setting for Alexandre Dumas' *The Count of Monte Cristo*, is a 16th century island prison castle and can be easily reached from the Vieux Port.

The Open Tour is one of the best ways to see the city. It's a hop-on, hop-off service and costs roughly £15 for an adult.

Art lovers are well catered for in Lens. The city is home to the Louvre-Lens, and hosts collections of the Musee du Louvre that are lent to the museum on a long-term basis.

St Etienne has one of the most successful football teams in France and has won 10 Ligue One titles, although its last triumph dates back to 1981.

There's a museum devoted to Les Verts, whose most famous players include Michel Platini and current Paris Saint-Germain coach Laurent Blanc.



ABOVE: Marseille, where England begin their campaign against Russia

RIGHT: The Louvre-Lens museum in Lens, where England and Wales meet



### WHERE TO STAY

IT really is jackpot time for hoteliers when England roll into town.

With a predicted 50,000 fans heading over to France, there won't be a shortage of takers for the few rooms which are still available.

The late kick-off for the Russia match means there will be few trains leaving Marseille after the final whistle. Expect to pay at least four times the going rate for a room for the night, while the hostels are also extremely expensive. A couple of options worth pursuing are Airbnb or Homelidsays.

Lens – where the ground capacity is greater than the town's population – will also present similar problems in terms of finding a bed for the night, while Lyon is the ideal place to be based for those making the trip to St Etienne.

### STAYING AT HOME

IF you're not tempted to cross the Channel, then ITV and BBC have it all covered. ITV are showing the two group games against Russia and Slovakia (8pm), while BBC will cover the Wales game in Lens (2pm).

**WHY BET WITH STANJAMES.COM FOR THE 2016 EURO FOOTBALL?**  
WE'RE SUPPORTING THE FANS OF THE HOME NATIONS...



**StanJames.com**  
For the bettors

General T&C's Apply. See [www.stanjames.com](http://www.stanjames.com) for full details. Gamble responsibly. [www.gambleaware.co.uk](http://www.gambleaware.co.uk)



Euro 2016

## Preview

# Has England's time arrived?

Rooney the conundrum as optimism grows for Hodgson

by Frank Malley

ON June 11, England will line up against Russia in the Stade Velodrome in the edgy city of Marseille for their first group match in Euro 2016 with genuine hope and anticipation.

No one is saying they will win their first major football tournament since Alf Ramsey's boys lifted the World Cup half a century ago.

No one realistically is expecting the heady whirl of 20 years ago, when England reached the semi-finals of Euro 1996 to the captivating soundtrack of 'Three Lions'.

England have let down their fans too often in the intervening years for that sort of expectation to take root, but there is a growing feeling that an exuberant England side could at last make an impact deep into a major tournament.

Youthful vigour and vibrancy are crucial to Hodgson, which is why he has named Manchester United's emerging 18-year-old striker Marcus Rashford in his squad.

His biggest conundrum, though, is somewhat older in 30-year-old Wayne Rooney, his captain, record goalscorer and England talisman for more than a decade.

In the friendly against Germany in March, there was a glimpse of the new England, a hard-running, bright, innovative England with Harry Kane at its focal point.

Kane is England's first-choice centre-forward. That is non-negotiable after a brilliant 25-goal season for Tottenham, where he has matured into a lethal striker.

After that, Hodgson has options. Lots of them. He could play Leicester's Jamie Vardy alongside Kane. He could play Rooney as a withdrawn striker behind Kane. He could play him wide in a front three, but that has never been Rooney's preferred role. He could leave his captain on the bench and use him as an impact player.

The point is that Rooney, the brilliant young talisman at Euro 2004, is no longer a definite starter. If he is fully fit and



*Rooney, the brilliant young talisman at Euro 2004, is no longer a definite starter*

rediscovers his finest form, it would be difficult to leave out a player with his scoring record and his positive influence on those around him.

But the fact that England have progressed with a pleasing tempo this past 12 months means Rooney's absence would not be the blow it might once have been.

Psychologically, England could not be in a better place. They qualified for Euro 2016 by winning all their matches – in an admittedly easy group – and there is a pace and rhythm about their play which gives real hope to their fans.

In Dele Alli they possess an attacking midfielder with quick feet and vision, one who crucially has a close understanding with Tottenham teammate Kane, and in Eric Dier they have a midfielder of composure and intelligence. They have attackers of real pace and a fine goalkeeper in Joe Hart.

Hodgson's biggest concern remains his defence where,

despite the promise of John Stones, there is a brittleness about such as Chris Smalling, Gary Cahill, Kyle Walker and Ryan Bertrand.

Hodgson, however, has reason to be confident. "Whenever you go into a tournament you have to go into it hoping to win," he said. "If you ask any of the teams, they'll think they can do it."

"No-one expected Denmark in 1992, Greece, Leicester to win the Premier League. Everyone needs that dream and hope and belief."

Welsh fans are certainly in dreamland. They last participated in the finals of a major tournament in the 1958 World Cup in Sweden, when the legendary John Charles inspired them to reach the quarter-finals. They are drawn in the same group as England and their clash in Lens on June 16 is likely to be pivotal for both teams.

It is unfair to saddle one player with ultimate responsibility, but so much for

the Welsh rests on Gareth Bale, who scored seven goals in qualifying, including the only goal in the defining home win over Belgium. The Real Madrid star will be desperate to excel against his former Premier League counterparts.

Coleman also has rich talents Arsenal's Aaron Ramsey and Liverpool's Joe Allen, as well as evergreen if less-celebrated performers such as Reading defender Chris Gunter.

Northern Ireland, at their first major tournament for 30 years, face a huge task in a group which includes Poland, Ukraine and world champions Germany.

They will be difficult to beat and will be a threat at set-pieces, and manager Michael O'Neill insists they will be "horrible" to play against while being the hardest-working team at the finals.

Martin O'Neill and the Republic of Ireland, meanwhile, have the toughest task of all, locked in a so-called group of death with Sweden, Belgium and Italy.

## GOLDEN BOOT

by Frank Malley

THE names read like a Who's Who of great European football strikers down the ages.

There is the German poacher supreme Gerd Muller, with four goals in Euro 1972.

There is Marco van Basten, the elegant Dutch goalscorer who scored five in 1988, including a wonder volley from an acute angle against the Soviet Union, acclaimed as one of the greatest goals of all time.

There is Alan Shearer with five goals for England in 1996, and there is Michel Platini, not an out-and-out striker but a midfielder of such devastating influence that he scored nine goals while steering France to the title in 1984.

All winners of the Golden Boot, awarded to the man who nets the most goals in the tournament finals, but who will join the exclusive golden club this year?

When it comes to excelling at the toughest aspect of the game, scoring goals, the cream is usually at the top and, on that basis, it would be folly to back against Cristiano Ronaldo.

Ronaldo is the leading scorer in the history of the tournament with 23 goals, including qualifying. He scored five in Portugal's qualifying campaign, including a hat-trick against Armenia, and his rate for Real Madrid is phenomenal.

He has not failed to score more than 50 in each of the last five seasons, including 61 in 54 games in 2014-15.

At Euro 2012 he scored a modest three, but enough to share the Golden Boot with Mario Mandzukic, Mario Gomez, Mario Balotelli, Alan Dzagoev and Fernando Torres. In short, he is a goal machine.

The Golden Boot rarely goes to a player whose side does not survive deep

into the tournament, and Portugal should canter through a group which includes Austria, Hungary and Iceland.

Home advantage should make France a force despite being 21st in the

## Golden boy set to take centre stage

FIFA rankings, good news for Antoine Griezmann, Atletico Madrid forward with a knack for scoring crucial goals.

Griezmann scored the only goal in Atletico's defeat of Real Madrid in February, scored both goals in the defeat of Barcelona in the Champions League

quarter-final in April and also notched the decisive away goal in the semi-final against Bayern which set Atletico to the Champions League final. That is the big-stage delivery which sorts out Golden Boot winners from the rest.

Arsenal's Olivier Giroud will be alongside Griezmann, while German striker Thomas Muller is another contender. He scored nine goals in qualifying and netted 32 times in 48 matches for Bayern last season.

Muller also gets more chances than most as, with Germany put their tournament face on, they invariably go all the way.

The same cannot be said for Wales, which is why man Gareth Bale would have to go some in the group phase to harbour hopes of gold.

Then there is Harry Kane of England. There is a directness, speed of thought and natural goal-scoring ability about Kane which has Golden Boot at some point written all over it.

If England can fulfil their youthful potential and play with the speed and exuberance which has been building this past months then Kane has the ability to join Muller, Van Basten and Platini in the Euro hall of striking fame.

But the smart money? It has to be Ronaldo.





# British and Irish challenge

## Mellowed, but still Keane as mustard

ROY KEANE divides opinion in Ireland.

There are those who will never forgive him for the Saipan meltdown which saw him return home from the 2002 World Cup finals without kicking a ball, those who believe he may have had a point, and others who all but worship the ground he rampages across in his own inimitable style.

Whatever else Keane is, he is box office, a factor not lost on former Republic of Ireland team-mate Niall Quinn when he offered him the chance to launch his managerial career at Sunderland in August 2006.

For better or worse, the 44-year-old from Cork is never far from the headlines with his very presence, let alone his forthright views and dry wit, newsworthy long after his glittering playing career drew to a close.

It will be no different at Euro 2016. The former Manchester United captain, capped 67 times, has become accustomed to, if not comfortable with, the circus which accompanies his every move, and despite retaining ambition to return to club football one day, is clearly enjoying his spell working under Martin O'Neill.

Perhaps more significantly, he appears to be rather good at it, too. Eyebrows were raised when he accepted O'Neill's offer to work as his assistant, a role he combined for a time with a similar position at Aston Villa under Paul Lambert, but the partnership has flourished.

O'Neill has accepted from the start that there could come a time when his No.2 is offered the chance to return to club management, but he firmly believes whatever happens in the future, Keane has benefited from his time back in the Ireland fold.

He said: "I think this has been very, very good for him. Will he want to manage on his own again? Absolutely, and if an

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND by Damian Spellman

opportunity comes up, a really good opportunity, then I would wish him all the best."

As intense a character as he can be, Keane appears at ease on the training pitch, where players who grew up marvelling at his contribution relish the opportunity to work under him.

And he obviously enjoys working with and trying to improve them under the gaze of a manager for whom he has immense respect.

The snarling countenance and popping veins of his playing days may have gone to be replaced by a disarming jocularly which has allowed him to forge a relaxed relationship with the squad, although he remains relentlessly focused.

Asked about skipper Robbie Keane's availability for the key qualifier against Germany in October after he had delayed his arrival in Dublin to attend the birth of his second son in Los Angeles, a bemused Keane replied: "Yes, why wouldn't he be? He didn't have the baby. Unless he's breast-feeding, he should be all right."

But it would be a mistake to assume the winning mentality which has fuelled Keane ever since he pulled on his first pair of football boots has waned as he has mellowed.

The draw for the finals has pitched the Republic into a tough group alongside Sweden, Italy and Belgium, but that is not something which will faze their assistant manager. Keane said: "We won't be short on hunger and desire and determination, and with the players and the manager we have, hopefully we'll give every team we play a good game."

If Keane's hunger, desire and determination have anything to do with it, a few feathers may well be ruffled in France this summer.

## Fast learners can

Kane-Alli link holds the key for Hodgson

ENGLAND by Tom Allnutt

THE last time England played at a European Championship, Harry Kane had just finished a loan spell at Millwall and Dele Alli was doing his GCSEs.

Both did fairly well. Kane scored nine goals and was the club's Young Player of the Season, while Alli left school with nine A to C grades, the As in Sport and Drama.

As Kane cleared out his locker at Millwall's training ground in Bromley and Alli signed off his final examination paper, it is hard to conceive either imagined that four years on they would be two of the most prized assets in the Premier League and Roy Hodgson's starting line-up.

Their breakthroughs were still some way off when Andrea Pirlo was passing and penalty-chipping England out of the quarter-finals at Euro 2012.

Kane spent the following season on loan at Norwich and then Leicester, scoring only twice in 21 appearances, while Alli would make his MK Dons debut in November but was handed only a single league start before the season was out.

England's class of 2016 have proven fast learners, and Roy Hodgson now has an embarrassment of attacking riches. Kane, Jamie Vardy and Wayne Rooney scored a hefty



70 goals between them this season, and the England manager has to juggle them with a resurgent Daniel Sturridge and the latest bloomer of them all, Marcus Rashford.

Hodgson can simplify the equation by etching in Kane and Alli, and moulding the rest around them. Of Kane's 25 league goals for Tottenham this season, seven were assisted by Alli. Statistically, Alli to Kane was the pass most likely to create a goal in Europe.

Alli was initially deployed in central midfield by Spurs boss

Mauricio Pochettino – and that may yet be where his long-term future lies – but it soon became apparent his craft in the final third and well-timed runs were too precious to waste anywhere other than around the opposition's defence. His 11 goals for club and nine assists for Spurs in the league are clear to see, but less obvious is the impact the 20-year-old has on Kane and a team's ability to break down a defence.

England, like Tottenham, are prone to stodginess against sides happy to sit back, but Alli

is one of those rare midfielders eager to break lines, his runs down the flanks and off the ball through the middle stretching opponents and opening up gaps which others can exploit.

It was perhaps best demonstrated in Tottenham's 4-0 win over Stoke in March, when their title challenge was still in full flow.

As Kane opened the scoring with a bending shot, Alli was ahead in the area waiting for the rebound. For the second, Kane offered short, allowing Alli to nip in behind and finish.

## Lafferty: I had to grow up

NORTHERN IRELAND were set on the road to France with a 2-1 victory over Hungary in Budapest in September 2014, but the seeds were sown 12 months earlier, following a defeat to Portugal in Belfast.

On that night, striker Kyle Lafferty was sent off 13 minutes after coming on as Michael O'Neill's nine men suffered a 4-2 defeat in a World Cup qualifier.

It came after Palermo let him go to Norwich despite a prolific season because, according to their president, he was "an out-of-control womaniser".

Following his dismissal against Portugal, O'Neill laid out some uncomfortable home truths for Lafferty. The joker

NORTHERN IRELAND by Liam Blackburn

had to go, and his country needed a hero.

"He sat me down the day after I was sent off against Portugal," Lafferty explained.

"It's difficult when you think you've got a good relationship with someone, and a guy you respect is saying things that hurt you. But when I went away and had a think about it, I knew he was right."

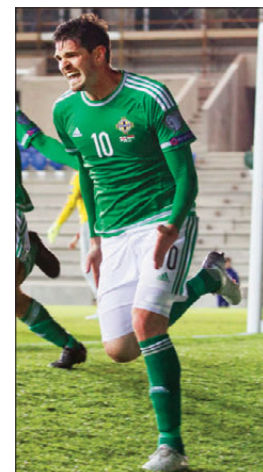
"He talked to me like an adult. The things he said, he actually made me believe the lads needed me in the team."

"The team and the country needs the Kyle Lafferty with the head screwed on, not the

clown. I've matured and I love coming away now. Obviously, I had to grow up sometime. I can't always be the player who loves a joke off the pitch, but performs one in every three games. He made me wake up."

And wake up he did. The late winner in Budapest was the first of seven goals in qualifying – only five players scored more – and a last-gasp equaliser against Hungary in the reverse fixture last September took Northern Ireland to the brink of a first major tournament in 30 years.

"Had it not been for the sending-off against Portugal I don't know if I would be in this position now, helping the team," admitted Lafferty.



Kyle Lafferty went from villain to hero

**TO WIN OUTRIGHT**  
**ENGLAND 9/1**  
**WALES 80/1**



**StanJames.com**  
For the bettors

General T&C's Apply. See [www.stanjames.com](http://www.stanjames.com) for full details. Gamble responsibly. [www.gambleaware.co.uk](http://www.gambleaware.co.uk). Prices subject to fluctuation.



# spur Roy's glory bid



Harry Kane (far left) and Dele Alli have built a deadly partnership with Tottenham Hotspur and can now do so again to boost England's Euro 2016 hopes in France

## Possible England line-up



The third began with Alli driving at pace down the left and ended with Kane tapping into an open net. And for the fourth, Kane had pulled wide as Alli arrived late in the area, volleying home to complete an impressive rout.

It is a flexible and dynamic partnership that can be a dangerous weapon for England too, if only Hodgson is prepared to trust the pair in their preferred positions.

Kane, the Premier League Golden Boot winner, must play up front and down the middle,

Alli either just off him in the centre or to one side with the freedom to cut inside.

It is not a strategy without risk. Kane took seven matches to open his account for Tottenham and, with 58 matches under his belt already, is hardly heading to France fresh.

Alli is less fatigued, having sat out the final three matches through suspension, but his ban served notice of a petulant streak which, if it resurfaces, could cost England dear.

But if Kane and Alli are given licence to continue the

chemistry shown for their club, England could have their most exciting partnership since Alan Shearer and Teddy Sheringham dazzled at Euro 96.

Hodgson appears ready to roll the dice.

"Germany coach Joachim Loew gave x, y and z chances, they had no experience, but he believed in their talent and look how they took their chance," Hodgson said recently.

"We have to believe the same will happen with ours, because there is no reason not to." Kane and Alli can lead the charge.

## WALES by Phil Blanche

AARON RAMSEY has always kept the faith. In choosing football over other sports, to believing Arsenal was a better bet than Manchester United, Ramsey had to make tough decisions from an early age.

Then came personal heartache and loss. The shattering double leg fracture when still a teenager and the tragic death of his Wales manager Gary Speed, the man who had made him the youngest captain of his country at the age of 20 years and 90 days.

It was an honour Ramsey was to lose when Speed's successor, Chris Coleman, wanted the more experienced Ashley Williams to wear the armband, and for the midfielder to focus on his game.

Ramsey did so as he won over snipers who had questioned what Arsene Wenger saw in the young Welshman.

He scored the winner in the 2014 FA Cup final victory over Hull – Arsenal's

## Ramsey tackles hurdles on hard road to the top

first major trophy for nine years – and his box-to-box energy, passing ability, and eye for goal made him impossible for Wenger to omit.

All the time, Ramsey was adamant Wales would end 58 years of hurt by qualifying for Euro 2016.

"I always believed we could get ourselves into a position like that from when Gary Speed took over, and you could see everything being put in place," Ramsey said last year.

"We started off really well under him and obviously what happened knocked us for a while. It wasn't an easy thing to overcome, but I never thought we would fail under Chris."

Ramsey, however, might have followed a different sporting path that would have led him away from France

this summer. An accomplished 800m and cross-country runner, the Caerphilly youngster was a Welsh Schools' pentathlon champion and ranked fourth in Britain at under-17 level in 2006.

He was also a gifted rugby player who had attracted the interest of scouts from rugby league side St Helens.

But he was already a member of Cardiff City's academy, and the rush to the top was on when he became the Bluebirds' youngest ever player at the age of 16 years and 124 days.

The following season he made 21 appearances as Cardiff reached the 2008 FA Cup

final, his final appearance coming as a second-half substitute in the 1-0 defeat to Portsmouth at Wembley.

Manchester United boss Sir Alex Ferguson would later say Ramsey was "the one that got away" when he opted for Arsenal, but a split second at Stoke would soon turn the Welshman's dream move into a nightmare.

A tackle by Stoke defender Ryan Shawcross in February 2010 broke the tibia and fibula in Ramsey's right leg.

Speed offered Ramsey encouragement with the Wales captaincy, but then the popular manager's sudden death left a nation grieving.

Coleman felt the pressure was too great, and Ramsey needed to take a step back to have a greater impact. It was to prove a masterstroke.

"We have shown we have a team capable of beating anyone, and that's how he will approach the finals," said Ramsey.



## Euros timeline

1956

Spain withdraw for political reasons, giving the Soviet Union a walkover



1960

France host the closing stages and beat Soviet Union in the final



1964

Spain host the closing stages and beat Soviet Union in the final



1968

Italy (right) beat Yugoslavia after winning a semi-final on the toss of a coin



1972

West Germany win the tournament for the first time



1976

Czechoslovakia win the trophy after a dramatic penalty shootout with West Germany



1980

Two groups of four, semi-finals and final becomes the new format. West Germany win again



1984

Michel Platini-inspired France win a magnificent tournament



1988

Ruud Gullit and Marco van Basten goals win the trophy for Holland



1992

Denmark, late replacements for war-torn Yugoslavia, win the trophy in Sweden



1996

Germany win the final in an expanded 16-team tournament despite Gazza's (above) heroics for England



2000

Greece, who had only qualified for one World Cup and one European Championship before, beat hosts Portugal 1-0 in the final



2004

Spain beat Germany 1-0 in the final with nine Spanish players named in the UEFA team of the tournament



2008

Spain become the first team to retain the title, thrashing Italy 4-0 in the final



2012

The tournament is expanded to 24 competing teams



2016

**TO WIN OUTRIGHT**  
**REPUBLIC OF IRELAND 150/1**  
**NORTHERN IRELAND 500/1**



**StanJames.com**  
For the bettors

General T&C's Apply. See [www.stanjames.com](http://www.stanjames.com) for full details. Gamble responsibly. [www.gamblaware.co.uk](http://www.gamblaware.co.uk)

Prices subject to fluctuation.



# Group A



## Home is where hopes are high

THERE is huge excitement in France in the build-up to Euro 2016 as the country prepares to not only host the tournament, but possibly win it once more.

France were the host nation in 1984 when Michel Platini led them to glory, and home advantage again proved to be key in 1998 as Les Bleus won the World Cup for the only time in their history.

Now there are high hopes in France the national team can go all the way again as a team packed with exciting young talent, spearheaded by Juventus star Paul Pogba, looks to justify the hype surrounding it.

A thrilling mixture of youth and experience certainly looks capable of

challenging for the trophy, although disharmony in the squad has often been France's downfall in the past, and the blackmail story involving team-mates Karim Benzema and Mathieu Valbuena does not bode well in that respect.

Expectation levels will be high heading into the tournament opener, but the defensive approach of Romania could mean patience is needed.

Assuming France perform as expected, the battle for second place could be intriguing. Albania have nothing to lose as they make their first appearance at a major tournament, while Switzerland are yet to get out of their group at a European Championship.



### Predicted winner

**FRANCE:** Getting to the knockout stage is the very least that is expected of France, and they should have little trouble topping their group. A squad featuring the likes of Paul Pogba, Hugo Lloris and Antoine Griezmann could go all the way.

### Dark horse

**ROMANIA:** They conceded only two goals in qualifying, and if they remain as difficult to break down at the finals, they could spring a surprise. A draw against France in the opening match would give them the opportunity to sneak top spot.

France midfielder Paul Pogba has become a major player on the world football stage since leaving Manchester United for Italian champions Juventus

### Albania

#### Coach

Gianni De Biasi

#### Star man

Lorik Cana

#### Tournament best

First-time qualifiers

#### Qualifying record

W4 D2 L2



**Goalkeepers:** Etrit Berisha (Lazio), Alban Hoxha (Partizani), Orges Shehi (Skenderbeu).

**Defenders:** Lorik Cana (Nantes), Arlind Ajeti (Frosinone), Mergim Mavraj (Cologne), Elseid Hysaj (Napoli), Ansi Agolli (Qarabag), Frederic Veseli (Lugano), Naser Aliji (Basle).

**Midfielders:** Ledjan Memushaj (Pescara), Ergys Kae (PAOK), Andi Lila (Giannina), Migjen Basha (Como), Odise Roshaj (Rijeka), Burim Kukeli (Zurich), Ermir Lenjani (Nantes), Taulant Xhaka (Basel), Armir Abrashi (Freiburg).

**Forwards:** Bekim Balaj (Rijeka), Sokol Cikalleshi (Medipol Baksasehir), Armando Sadiku (Vaduz), Shkelzen Gashi (Colorado Rapids).

### France

#### Coach

Didier Deschamps

#### Star man

Paul Pogba

#### Tournament best

Winners 1984, 2000

#### Qualifying record

Automatic as hosts



**Goalkeepers:** Hugo Lloris (Tottenham), Steve Mandanda (Marseille), Benoit Costil (Rennes).

**Defenders:** Samuel Umtiti (Lyon), Laurent Koscielny (Arsenal), Eliaquim Mangala (Man City), Adil Rami (Sevilla), Patrice Evra (Juventus), Bacary Sagna (Man City), Lucas Digne (Roma), Christophe Jallet (Lyon).

**Midfielders:** Paul Pogba (Juventus), Blaise Matuidi (Paris Saint-Germain), Morgan Schneiderlin (Man United), N'Golo Kante (Leicester), Yohan Cabaye (Crystal Palace), Moussa Sissoko (Newcastle).

**Forwards:** Antoine Griezmann (Atletico Madrid), Dimitri Payet (West Ham), Anthony Martial (Man United), Kingsley Coman (Bayern Munich), Olivier Giroud (Arsenal), Andre-Pierre Gignac (Tigres).

### Romania

#### Coach

Anghel Iordanescu

#### Star man

Razvan Rat

#### Tournament best

Quarter-finalists 2000

#### Qualifying record

W5 D5 L0



**Goalkeepers:** Ciprian Tatarusanu (Fiorentina), Costel Pantilimon (Watford), Silviu Lung (Astra Giurgiu).

**Defenders:** Cristian Sapunaru (Pandurii Targu Jiu), Alexandru Matel (Dinamo Zagreb), Vlad Chiriches (Napoli), Valerica Gaman (Astra Giurgiu), Dragos Grigore (Al-Sailiya), Cosmin Moti (Ludogorets Razgrad), Razvan Rat (Rayo Vallecano), Stelian Filip (Dinamo Bucharest).

**Midfielders:** Mihai Pintilii (Steaua Bucharest), Ovidiu Hoban (Hapoel Be'er Sheva), Andrei Prepelita (Ludogorets Razgrad), Adrian Popa (Steaua Bucharest), Gabriel Torje (Osmanlispor), Alexandru Chipciu (Steaua Bucharest), Nicolae Stanciu (Steaua Bucharest), Lucian Sanmartean (Al Ittihad).

**Forwards:** Claudiu Keseru (Ludogorets Razgrad), Bogdan Stancu (Genclerbirligi), Florin Andone (Cordoba), Denis Alibec (Astra Giurgiu).

### Switzerland

#### Coach

Vladimir Petkovic

#### Star man

Xherdan Shaqiri

#### Tournament best

Group 1996, 2004, 2008

#### Qualifying record

W7 D0 L3



**Goalkeepers:** Roman Burki (Dortmund), Marwin Hitz (Augsburg), Yann Sommer (B M'gladbach).

**Defenders:** Johan Djourou (Hamburg), Nico Elvedi (B M'gladbach), Michael Lang (Basel), Stephan Lichtsteiner (Juventus), Francois Moubandje (Toulouse), Ricardo Rodriguez (Wolfsburg), Fabian Schar (Hoffenheim), Steve von Bergen (Young Boys).

**Midfielders:** Valon Behrami (Watford), Blerim Dzemaili (Genoa), Gelson Fernandes (Rennes), Fabian Frei (Mainz), Xherdan Shaqiri (Stoke City), Granit Xhaka (B M'gladbach), Denis Zakaria (Young Boys).

**Forwards:** Eren Derdiyok (Kasimpasa), Admir Mehmedi (Leverkusen), Breel Embolo (Basel), Haris Seferovic (Frankfurt), Shani Tarashaj (Grasshoppers).

**GROUP A TO QUALIFY**  
**FRANCE 1/50 SWITZERLAND 1/3**  
**ROMANIA 4/5 ALBANIA 7/4**



**StanJames.com**  
 For the bettors

General T&Cs Apply. See [www.stanjames.com](http://www.stanjames.com) for full details. Gamble responsibly. [www.gambleaware.co.uk](http://www.gambleaware.co.uk). Prices subject to fluctuation.



# Group B



## Bale is threat to Roy's dream

ENGLAND were arguably the most impressive team during the qualifying campaign as they eased to 10 straight victories, but their performances at major tournaments have often borne little resemblance to the ones that got them there in the first place.

In truth, England were hardly tested in one of the easier qualifying groups, and getting the best out of their players at the end of a gruelling Premier League season is a conundrum which no coach has managed to solve at recent major tournaments.

Injuries in the second half of the season to Wayne Rooney and Raheem Sterling have been far from ideal, and the long-term

absences of Luke Shaw and Jack Wilshere have also limited Roy Hodgson's options during the build-up, although they should still have enough quality in their ranks to win the group.

Wales will be desperate to get one over their neighbours and, in Real Madrid's Gareth Bale, they have a player who can trouble any opposition.

Russia have been revitalised since the departure of former England coach Fabio Capello and will expect to progress, while Slovakia have a solid spine to their team, with midfielder Marek Hamsik the key to them progressing out of the group despite what looks like a lack of firepower up front.



### Predicted winner

**ENGLAND:** Question marks remain about the defence against top-class opposition, but the form of strikers Harry Kane and Jamie Vardy provides a welcome selection dilemma up front and England will be favourites to win all three group games.

### Dark horse

**WALES:** After waiting so long to reach a major tournament, Wales are keen to make an impact, and have the players to do so. Gareth Bale is the obvious threat, but Aaron Ramsey is a top-class midfielder and the defence is well organised by Ashley Williams.

**Napoli star Marek Hamsik will hold the key to Slovakia making progress from the group**

### England

#### Coach

Roy Hodgson

#### Star man

Harry Kane

#### Tournament best

Semi-finals 1968, 1996

#### Qualifying record

W10 D0 L0



**Goalkeepers:** Joe Hart (Man City), Fraser Forster (Southampton), Tom Heaton (Burnley).

**Defenders:** Gary Cahill (Chelsea), Chris Smalling (Man United), John Stones (Everton), Kyle Walker (Tottenham), Ryan Bertrand (Southampton), Danny Rose (Tottenham), Nathaniel Clyne (Liverpool).

**Midfielders:** Dele Alli (Tottenham), Ross Barkley (Everton), Eric Dier (Tottenham), Jordan Henderson (Liverpool), Adam Lallana (Liverpool), James Milner (Liverpool), Raheem Sterling (Man City), Jack Wilshere (Arsenal).

**Strikers:** Wayne Rooney (Manchester United), Harry Kane (Tottenham), Jamie Vardy (Leicester City), Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool), Marcus Rashford (Man United).

### Russia

#### Coach

Leonid Slutsky

#### Star man

Artem Dzyuba

#### Tournament best

Semi-finals 2008

#### Qualifying record

W6 D2 L2



**Goalkeepers:** Igor Akinfeev (CSKA Moscow), Yuri Lodygin (Zenit), Guilherme (Lokomotiv Moscow).

**Defenders:** Aleksei Berezutski (CSKA Moscow), Vasili Berezutski (CSKA Moscow), Sergei Ignashevich (CSKA Moscow), Dmitri Kombarov (Spartak Moscow), Roman Neustadter (Schalke), Georgi Schennikov (CSKA Moscow), Roman Shishkin (Lokomotiv Moscow), Igor Smolnikov (Zenit).

**Midfielders:** Igor Denisov (Zenit), Dmitri Torbinski (Krasnodar), Aleksandr Golovin (CSKA Moscow), Denis Glushakov (Spartak Moscow), Oleg Ivanov (Terek Grozny), Pavel Mamaev (Krasnodar), Aleksandr Samedov (Lokomotiv Moscow), Oleg Shatov (Zenit), Roman Shirokov (CSKA Moscow).

**Forwards:** Artem Dzyuba (Zenit), Aleksandr Kokorin (Zenit), Fedor Smolov (Krasnodar).

### Slovakia

#### Coach

Jan Kozak

#### Star man

Marek Hamsik

#### Tournament best

First-time qualifiers

#### Qualifying record

W7 D1 L2



**Goalkeepers:** Matus Kozacik (Viktoria Plzen), Jan Mucha (Slovan Bratislava), Jan Novota (Rapid Vienna).

**Defenders:** Peter Pekarik (Hertha Berlin), Milan Skriniar (Sampdoria), Martin Skrtel (Liverpool), Norbert Gyomber (Roma), Jan Durica (Lokomotiv Moscow), Kornel Salata (Slovan Bratislava), Tomas Hubocan (Dinamo Moscow), Dusan Svento (Cologne).

**Midfielders:** Marek Hamsik (Napoli), Juraj Kucka (AC Milan), Miroslav Stoch (Bursaspor), Vladimir Weiss (Al-Gharafa), Robert Mak (PAOK), Patrik Hrosovsky (Viktoria Plzen), Jan Gregus (Jablonec), Viktor Pecovsky (Zilina), Stanislav Sestak (Ferencváros), Ondrej Duda (Legia Warsaw).

**Forwards:** Michal Duris (Viktoria Plzen), Adam Nemec (Willem II).

### Wales

#### Coach

Chris Coleman

#### Star man

Gareth Bale

#### Tournament best

First-time qualifiers

#### Qualifying record

W6 D3 L1



**Goalkeepers:** Wayne Hennessey (Crystal Palace), Danny Ward (Liverpool), Owain Fon Williams (Inverness).

**Defenders:** Ben Davies (Tottenham Hotspur), Neil Taylor (Swansea City), Chris Gunter (Reading), Ashley Williams (Swansea City), James Chester (West Brom), Jazz Richards (Fulham), James Collins (West Ham).

**Midfielders:** Aaron Ramsey (Arsenal), Joe Ledley (Crystal Palace), David Vaughan (Nottingham Forest), Joe Allen (Liverpool), Jonathan Williams (Crystal Palace), George Williams (Fulham), Andy King (Leicester), Dave Edwards (Wolves).

**Forwards:** Gareth Bale (Real Madrid), Hal Robson-Kanu (Reading), Sam Vokes (Burnley), Simon Church (MK Dons), David Cotterill (Birmingham City).

**GROUP B WINNER**  
**ENGLAND 8/11 WALES 4/1**  
**RUSSIA 10/3 SLOVAKIA 9/1**



**StanJames.com**  
 For the bettors

General T&Cs Apply. See [www.stanjames.com](http://www.stanjames.com) for full details. Gamble responsibly. [www.gamblaware.co.uk](http://www.gamblaware.co.uk)  
 Prices subject to fluctuation.



# Euro 2016 wallchart

## GROUP A

Friday, 10 June, 8pm	Stade de France
<b>France</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Romania</b>	
Saturday, 11 June, 2pm	Lens
<b>Albania</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Switzerland</b>	
Wednesday, 15 June, 5pm	Parc des Princes
<b>Romania</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Switzerland</b>	
Wednesday, 15 June, 8pm	Marseille
<b>France</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Albania</b>	
Sunday, 19 June, 8pm	Lyon
<b>Romania</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Albania</b>	
Sunday, 19 June, 8pm	Lille
<b>Switzerland</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>France</b>	

## GROUP B

Saturday, 11 June, 5pm	Bordeaux
<b>Wales</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Slovakia</b>	
Saturday, 11 June, 8pm	Marseille
<b>England</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Russia</b>	
Wednesday, 15 June, 2pm	Lille
<b>Russia</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Slovakia</b>	
Thursday, 16 June, 2pm	Lens
<b>England</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Wales</b>	
Monday, 20 June, 8pm	Toulouse
<b>Russia</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Wales</b>	
Monday, 20 June, 8pm	Saint-Etienne
<b>Slovakia</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>England</b>	

## GROUP C

Sunday, 12 June, 5pm	Nice
<b>Poland</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>N.Ireland</b>	
Sunday, 12 June, 8pm	Lille
<b>Germany</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Ukraine</b>	
Thursday, 16 June, 5pm	Lyon
<b>Ukraine</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>N.Ireland</b>	
Thursday, 16 June, 8pm	Stade de France
<b>Germany</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Poland</b>	
Tuesday, 21 June, 5pm	Marseille
<b>Ukraine</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Poland</b>	
Tuesday, 21 June, 5pm	Parc des Princes
<b>N.Ireland</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Germany</b>	

## GROUP A FINAL TABLE

	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
A1							
A2							
A3							
A4							

## GROUP B FINAL TABLE

	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
B1							
B2							
B3							
B4							

## GROUP C FINAL TABLE

	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
C1							
C2							
C3							
C4							

# Knockout rounds

## HOW THEY QUALIFY

■ The six group winners and six runners-up qualify for the Round of 16, together with the four best third-placed teams. Those four are determined by, in order: most points; superior goal difference; most goals scored; fair play in the tournament; UEFA rankings.

■ The four best third-placed teams are placed in the Round of 16 depending on which four groups they come from. The table shows their opponents depending on the permutation of successful groups in the first column:

	A1v	B1v	C1v	D1v		A1v	B1v	C1v	D1v
ABCD	3C	3D	3A	3B	ACEF	3C	3A	3F	3E
ABCE	3C	3A	3B	3E	ADEF	3D	3A	3F	3E
ABCF	3C	3A	3B	3F	BCDE	3C	3D	3B	3E
ABDE	3D	3A	3B	3E	BCDF	3C	3D	3B	3F
ABDF	3D	3A	3B	3F	BCEF	3E	3C	3B	3F
ABEF	3E	3A	3B	3F	BDEF	3E	3D	3B	3F
ACDE	3C	3D	3A	3E	CDEF	3C	3D	3F	3E
ACDF	3C	3D	3A	3F					

## ROUND OF 16

1. Saturday, 25 June, 2pm	Saint-Etienne
<b>A2</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>C2</b>	
2. Saturday, 25 June, 8pm	Lens
<b>D1</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>B/E/F3</b>	
3. Saturday, 25 June, 5pm	Parc des Princes
<b>B1</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>A/C/D3</b>	
4. Sunday, 26 June, 8pm	Toulouse
<b>F1</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>E2</b>	

5. Sunday, 26 June, 5pm	Lille
<b>C1</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>A/B/F3</b>	
6. Monday, 27 June, 5pm	Stade de France
<b>E1</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>D2</b>	
7. Sunday, 26 June, 2pm	Lyon
<b>A1</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>C/D/E3</b>	
8. Monday, 27 June, 8pm	Nice
<b>B2</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>F2</b>	

# GOLDEN BOOT

PLACE A £20 BET ON THE TOP GOALSCORER MARKET  
AND GET A 95 FREE BET EVERYTIME HE SCORES





GROUP D		
Sunday, 12 June, 2pm      Parc des Princes		
	Turkey <input type="checkbox"/>	
Monday, 13 June, 2pm      Toulouse		
	Spain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Friday, 17 June, 5pm      Saint-Etienne		
	Czech Rep <input type="checkbox"/>	
Friday, 17 June, 8pm      Nice		
	Spain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Tuesday, 21 June, 8pm      Lens		
	Czech Rep <input type="checkbox"/>	
Tuesday, 21 June, 8pm      Bordeaux		
	Croatia <input type="checkbox"/>	

GROUP E		
Monday, 13 June, 5pm      Stade de France		
	Rep Ireland <input type="checkbox"/>	
Monday, 13 June, 8pm      Lyon		
	Belgium <input type="checkbox"/>	
Friday, 17 June, 2pm      Toulouse		
	Italy <input type="checkbox"/>	
Saturday, 18 June, 2pm      Bordeaux		
	Belgium <input type="checkbox"/>	
Wednesday, 22 June, 8pm      Lille		
	Italy <input type="checkbox"/>	
Wednesday, 22 June, 8pm      Nice		
	Sweden <input type="checkbox"/>	

GROUP F		
Tuesday, 14 June, 5pm      Bordeaux		
	Austria <input type="checkbox"/>	
Tuesday, 14 June, 8pm      Saint-Etienne		
	Portugal <input type="checkbox"/>	
Saturday, 18 June, 5pm      Marseille		
	Iceland <input type="checkbox"/>	
Saturday, 18 June, 8pm      Parc des Princes		
	Portugal <input type="checkbox"/>	
Wednesday, 22 June, 5pm      Stade de France		
	Iceland <input type="checkbox"/>	
Wednesday, 22 June, 5pm      Lyon		
	Hungary <input type="checkbox"/>	

GROUP D FINAL TABLE									
	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts		
D1									
D2									
D3									
D4									

GROUP E FINAL TABLE									
	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts		
E1									
E2									
E3									
E4									

GROUP F FINAL TABLE									
	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts		
F1									
F2									
F3									
F4									



Holders Spain celebrate winning Euro 2012 in Kiev

QUARTER-FINALS		
QF1. Thursday, 30 June, 8pm      Marseille		
Winner 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		Winner 2 <input type="checkbox"/>
QF2. Friday, 1 July, 8pm      Lille		
Winner 3 <input type="checkbox"/>		Winner 4 <input type="checkbox"/>
QF3. Saturday, 2 July, 8pm      Bordeaux		
Winner 5 <input type="checkbox"/>		Winner 6 <input type="checkbox"/>
QF4. Sunday, 3 July, 8pm      Stade de France		
Winner 7 <input type="checkbox"/>		Winner 8 <input type="checkbox"/>

SEMI-FINALS		
Wednesday, 6 July, 8pm      Lyon		
Winner QF1 <input type="checkbox"/>		Winner QF2 <input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday, 7 July, 8pm      Marseille		
Winner QF3 <input type="checkbox"/>		Winner QF4 <input type="checkbox"/>
EURO 2016 FINAL		
Sunday, 10 July, 8pm      Stade de France		
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

TOP GOALSCORER  
CRISTIANO RONALDO 6/1 THOMAS MULLER 7/1 .  
ANTOINE GRIEZMANN 7/1 ROBERT LEWANDOWSKI 14/1



StanJames.com  
For the bettors



10

Euro 20

# Flashback: Euro 96

## Where are they now?

We track down the 11 players who started the semi-final against Germany 20 years ago

### DAVID SEAMAN

After retiring in 2004, Seaman showed an unexpected talent for ice dancing, winning Strictly Ice Dancing and finishing fourth in Dancing on Ice. His more serious pursuits include coaching at Arsenal, corporate speaking and media work, while he is a keen fisherman and golfer.



### STUART PEARCE

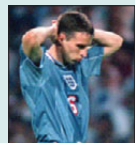
Pearce went into management, coaching Manchester City, England Under-21s, the GB Olympic team and, most recently, Nottingham Forest. He was sacked in February 2015 and is currently working as a media pundit. In March, he made his debut for Longford AFC, dubbed the worst team in the UK, aged 53.

### TONY ADAMS

After brief managerial stints with Wycombe and Portsmouth, the former Arsenal defender joined Azerbaijani side Gabala FC in 2010 and is currently director of football. In 2000, he founded the Sporting Chance Clinic to help sportspeople with addiction following his own battle with alcoholism.

### GARETH SOUTHGATE

The man who missed the crucial penalty went on to manage Middlesbrough before joining the FA as head of elite development. He was appointed coach of England Under-21s in 2013 and remains in that role.



### PAUL INCE

Another to go into management, with spells at Macclesfield, MK Dons, Blackburn, Notts County and Blackpool. Since leaving Blackpool in 2014, he has been heavily involved in the career of his son, Tom.

### DAVID PLATT

The third member of the Euro 96 team to coach England Under-21s, Platt also had spells in charge of Sampdoria and Nottingham Forest. He was part of Roberto Mancini's coaching team at Manchester City, and last year managed Pune City in India.

### PAUL GASCOIGNE

The post-retirement struggles of England's Euro 96 talisman have been well documented. Aside from a very brief spell as manager of Kettering, Gascoigne has spent the last decade battling addiction and attempting to live a quiet life in Poole.

### ALAN SHEARER

Shearer has been a high-profile pundit since retiring in 2006, barring an unsuccessful attempt to save Newcastle from relegation as manager in 2009.

### TEDDY SHERINGHAM

Sheringham played until the age of 42. He joined West Ham's coaching staff in 2014 and, in 2015, took his first managerial role at Stevenage, who sacked him in February. He is also a keen poker player.

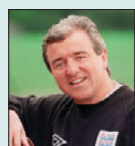


### DARREN ANDERTON

Anderton finished his career with Bournemouth in 2008 and has since spent his time doing media work and playing golf.

### STEVE MCNAMAMAN

McManaman has mostly worked in the media since retirement and is currently a pundit for BT Sport. He is also an ambassador for UEFA and has a keen interest in horse racing.



**MANAGER - TERRY VENABLES**  
The man who guided England to the semi-finals 20 years ago now runs a boutique hotel in Spain with his wife, Yvette.

Compiled by  
Eleanor Crooks



LEFT: Paul Gascoigne scores his iconic goal in the 2-0 group win over Scotland

ABOVE: The famous – or infamous – dentist's chair celebration that followed

RIGHT: Gascoigne embodies a nation's joy

INSET BELOW: Stuart Pearce exorcises the demons of Italia '90 with his penalty in the shootout against Spain



Twenty years on from the summer of 1996, England fans have their shortest journey since to embark on another European Championship rollercoaster. **Lenny Miller** revels in those halcyon days of Terry Venables and Paul Gascoigne, and wonders whether the current crop can go as close again in France.

# Now it's 50 years of hurt

MOST England football fans have an overriding memory of Euro '96.

For some, it would be Paul Gascoigne's goal and 'dentist's chair' celebration against Scotland, or the Alan Shearer and Teddy Sheringham show in the 4-1 rout of the Netherlands, still one of England's best ever performances.

David Seaman's horrific multi-coloured goalkeeper jersey – although I still prefer that yellow, green and purple monstrosity over England's current outfield kit – certainly stands out, as did Stuart Pearce's face when he smashed in that penalty against Spain in the quarter-final, healing the heartache of his miss against West Germany six years earlier at Italia '90.

Twenty years on, with a short hop across the Channel, thousands of England supporters will have the opportunity to relive those halcyon days this summer, swapping Wembley for cities such as Marseille, Lens and Saint-Etienne.

At the time, I was just seven but, luckily for me – and thanks to my father, who I am forever indebted to for my love of the beautiful game – I had first-hand accounts of all those moments, with tickets for every England game plus the final. I may have been in my formative years, but memories of that tournament have not diminished.

I had already had a taste of Wembley a few weeks earlier in the Division One play-off final, having witnessed Steve Claridge shine a last-minute effort into a bottom corner to send Martin O'Neill's Leicester to the top flight, leaving my beloved Crystal Palace to wait another season before they could

find redemption at the same venue. It would not be the last time I left the grand old stadium in tears.

One of my abiding memories was the Three Lions song by David Baddiel, Frank Skinner and The Lightning Seeds. I loved the line "thirty years of hurt, never stopped me dreaming", referring to the time elapsed since England won a major tournament, the 1966 World Cup. It was another early lesson in what I could expect a life of following football to entail, as was Gareth Southgate's ill-fated penalty against Germany in the semi-finals as chants of 'Football's Coming Home' turned into 'Fussball's Coming Home'. Who said the Germans lacked a sense of humour? Cue more tears.

I hadn't envisaged that, in the 20 years since, England would have endured such lows – but, although the torment has stretched to 50 years, the second part of that Three Lions line is still applicable.



History tells us not to get our hopes up every two years, but where is the fun in that?

Just like Euro '96, England go into the European Championship finals with a genuine chance.

There are certainly parallels to be made between this current crop and the stars of that era.

Premier League top scorer Harry Kane is the closest to the Shearer mould England have produced, with the Newcastle legend himself suggesting there is no reason why Spurs' talisman cannot repeat his feat and finish the competition as the Golden Boot winner.

Kane's Spurs team-mate Dele Alli scored a goal so outrageous against Palace this season that he has since been compared to a young Gascoigne – by none other than Sir Alex Ferguson. His performances have lived up to the hype, too, as has his combustible nature.

Terry Venables went for a blend of youth and experience – Seaman, Pearce and Sheringham the three players 30-plus – with an average age of 25.7. Roy Hodgson has opted for something similar, with the average of his initial 26-man squad brought down to 25.3 by Alli, Kane, Eric Dier and Ross Barkley.

Whether or not this current crop can do what no other England generation has done before them and hold their nerve in the almost inevitable penalty shootout that the Three Lions will find themselves remains to be seen.

World champions Germany are a team in transition, and holders Spain are not the all-conquering side of four years ago, but it will still be a tall order for England to win in France, with the host nation being the team to beat for me.

But in the year of the underdog, after Leicester's incredible Premier League success, England undoubtedly have a chance. If Hodgson's men can capture nation's imagination like El Tel's boys did, if Alli can produce a moment of magic, or Kane rifles a crucial goal against Wales, then memories of '66 and '96 will come flooding back. What was that Three Lions line? "I know that was the but it could be again".

TOP PRICE

StanJames.com



# Group C



## Poles bid for another upset

GERMANY and Poland were group rivals in qualifying for Euro 2016 and have been drawn together again, meaning the two teams will know plenty about each other.

Germany were expected to ease through qualifying, but finished only a point ahead of the Poles after losing two of their 10 games, including a 2-0 defeat in Warsaw.

That should ensure there is no complacency from Joachim Low's side when the two sides meet in their second group match on June 16, and they certainly know plenty about prolific striker Robert Lewandowski, who has been one of the leading performers in the Bundesliga, for Borussia

Dortmund and more recently Bayern Munich.

Ukraine failed to progress as co-hosts four years ago despite beating Sweden in their first match. This time they will hope to catch Germany cold in their opening game but know their results against Northern Ireland and Poland are more likely to determine whether they get through the group.

Northern Ireland fans may spend the entire campaign pinching themselves that they are finally at a major tournament for the first time since the 1986 World Cup. They upset the odds to qualify as group winners, and will have to defy expectations once again to avoid finishing bottom of the group table.



### Predicted winner

**GERMANY:** They rarely fail to perform on the big stage, and have appeared in six European finals, winning three. They are not as strong as they were when winning the 2014 World Cup, but are still one of the main contenders.

### Dark horse

**POLAND:** Any team with the prolific Robert Lewandowski up front is capable of doing damage and, having already beaten Germany in qualifying, Poland will not have the same trepidation against the world champions that other sides may have.

Robert Lewandowski's ability in front of goal means Germany - and the rest of the group - will be wary of Poland

### Germany

#### Coach

Joachim Low

#### Star man

Thomas Muller

#### Tournament best

Winners 1972, '80, '96

#### Qualifying record

W7 D1 L2



**Goalkeepers:** Manuel Neuer (Bayern Munich), Bernd Leno (Bayer Leverkusen), Marc-Andre ter Stegen (Barcelona).

**Defenders:** Jerome Boateng (Bayern Munich), Emre Can (Liverpool), Jonas Hector (Cologne), Benedikt Hoewedes (Schalke), Mats Hummels (Borussia Dortmund), Shkodran Mustafi (Valencia), Antonio Ruediger (Roma).

**Midfielders:** Julian Draxler (Wolfsburg), Sami Khedira (Juventus), Joshua Kimmich (Bayern Munich), Toni Kroos (Real Madrid), Thomas Muller (Bayern Munich), Mesut Ozil (Arsenal), Lukas Podolski (Galatasaray), Andre Schurrle (Wolfsburg), Bastian Schweinsteiger (Manchester United), Julian Weigl (Borussia Dortmund).

**Forwards:** Mario Gomez (Besiktas), Mario Goetze (Bayern Munich), Leroy Sane (Schalke).

### Northern Ireland

#### Coach

Michael O'Neill

#### Star man

Kyle Lafferty

#### Tournament best

First-time qualifiers

#### Qualifying record

W6 D3 L1



**Goalkeepers:** Alan Mannus (St Johnstone), Michael McGovern (Hamilton Academical), Roy Carroll (Linfield).

**Defenders:** Craig Cathcart (Watford), Jonathan Evans (West Brom), Gareth McAuley (West Brom), Luke McCullough (Doncaster), Conor McLaughlin (Fleetwood), Lee Hodson (MK Dons), Aaron Hughes (free agent), Patrick McNair (Man United), Chris Baird (Derby).

**Midfielders:** Steven Davis (Southampton), Oliver Norwood (Reading), Corry Evans (Blackburn), Shane Ferguson (Millwall), Stuart Dallas (Leeds), Niall McGinn (Aberdeen), Jamie Ward (Nottm Forest).

**Forwards:** Kyle Lafferty (Norwich), Conor Washington (QPR), Josh Magennis (Kilmarnock), Will Grigg (Wigan).

### Poland

#### Coach

Adam Nawalka

#### Star man

Robert Lewandowski

#### Tournament best

Group 2008, 2012

#### Qualifying record

W6 D3 L1



**Goalkeepers:** Lukasz Fabianski (Swansea), Wojciech Szczesny (Roma), Artur Boruc (Bournemouth).

**Defenders:** Thiago Cionek (Palermo), Kamil Glik (Torino), Artur Jedrzejczyk (Legia), Michal Pazdan (Legia), Lukasz Piszczek (Borussia Dortmund), Bartosz Salamon (Cagliari), Jakub Wawrzyniak (Lechia Gdansk).

**Midfielders:** Jakub Blaszczykowski (Fiorentina), Kamil Grosicki (Rennes), Tomasz Jodlowiec (Legia), Bartosz Kapustka (Cracovia), Grzegorz Krychowiak (Sevilla), Karol Linetty (Lech Poznan), Krzysztof Maczynski (Wisla), Slawomir Peszko (Lechia Gdansk), Filip Starzynski (Zaglebie Lubin), Piotr Zielinski (Empoli).

**Forwards:** Arkadiusz Milik (Ajax), Robert Lewandowski (Bayern), Mariusz Stepinski (Ruch Chorzow).

### Ukraine

#### Coach

Mykhaylo Fomenko

#### Star man

Andriy Yarmolenko

#### Tournament best

Group 2012

#### Qualifying record

W6 D1 L3 (won play-off)



**Goalkeepers:** Andriy Pyatov (Shakhtar), Denys Boyko (Besiktas), Mykyta Shevchenko (Zorya).

**Defenders:** Evhen Khacheridi (Dynamo Kiev), Bohdan Butko (Amkar), Artem Fedetskyi (Dnipro), Oleksandr Karavaev (Zorya), Oleksandr Kucher (Shakhtar), Yaroslav Rakytskyi (Shakhtar), Vyacheslav Shevchuk (Shakhtar).

**Midfielders:** Serhiy Rybalka (Dynamo Kiev), Denys Garmash (Dynamo Kiev), Serhiy Sydorchuk (Dynamo Kiev), Evhen Konoplyanka (Sevilla), Ruslan Rotan (Dnipro), Taras Stepanenko (Shakhtar), Viktor Kovalenko (Shakhtar), Anatoliy Tumoshchuk (Kairat), Oleksandr Zinchenko (UFA).

**Forwards:** Roman Zozulya (Dnipro), Pylyp Budkivskyi (Zorya), Evhen Seleznyov (Shakhtar).

**GROUP C TO FINISH BOTTOM**  
**GERMANY 25/1 UKRAINE 3/1**  
**POLAND 4/1 NORTHERN IRELAND 4/6**



**StanJames.com**  
For the bettors

General T&Cs Apply. See [www.stanjames.com](http://www.stanjames.com) for full details. Gamble responsibly. [www.gamblaware.co.uk](http://www.gamblaware.co.uk). Prices subject to fluctuation.



# Group D



## Will the Spanish reign again?

SPAIN are aiming to be crowned European champions for an unprecedented third time in a row – and they certainly look capable of doing so.

True, they are not quite the force they once were. With Xavi and Xabi Alonso now missing from the midfield, Spain do not dominate possession to quite the same extent as they did previously, and they have struggled to find a reliable striker since David Villa and Fernando Torres were in their prime.

They flopped at the 2014 World Cup, failing to get out of their group, and suffered their first defeat in qualifying for nine years when they lost to Slovakia in October 2014. Facts like that

give their group rivals grounds for optimism, but Spain remain one of the best teams in the world and still possess an embarrassment of riches in midfield.

Creativity in the centre of the park is not something that any of the four teams in this group are lacking, with Turkey, Czech Republic and Croatia all playing football that is pleasing on the eye and this could prove to be the most entertaining group for the neutrals.

Croatia's team possesses more big-match experience than the other two – most notably with Real Madrid's Luka Modric and Barcelona's Ivan Rakitic – and that could be enough to see them secure the runners-up spot.



### Predicted winner

**SPAIN:** An early World Cup exit two years ago proved Spain are not invincible, but they still possess the quality and experience to dominate this group – and maybe retain their crown. The lack of a truly world-class striker looks their only weakness.

### Dark horse

**CROATIA:** A midfield partnership of Luka Modric and fellow La Liga star Ivan Rakitic is a match for most, and the creativity they provide could ensure Croatia go far in this tournament, especially if a defence which is not blessed with pace can hold firm.

Real Madrid star Luka Modric is part of a powerful Croatia midfield

### Croatia

#### Coach

Ante Cacic

#### Star man

Luka Modric

#### Tournament best

Quarter-finals 1996, 2008

#### Qualifying record

W6 D3 L1



**Goalkeepers:** Danijel Subasic (Monaco), Lovre Kalinic (Hajduk Split), Ivan Vargic (Rijeka).

**Defenders:** Vedran Corluka (Lokomotiv Moscow), Darijo Srna (Shakhtar Donetsk), Domagoj Vida (Dynamo Kiev), Sime Vrsaljko (Sassuolo), Gordon Schildenfeld (Dinamo Zagreb), Ivan Strinic (Napoli), Tin Jedvaj (Bayer Leverkusen).

**Midfielders:** Luka Modric (Real Madrid), Ivan Rakitic (Barcelona), Mateo Kovacic (Real Madrid), Marcelo Brozovic (Inter Milan), Milan Badelj (Fiorentina), Ivan Perisic (Inter Milan), Marko Rog (Dinamo Zagreb), Ante Coric (Dinamo Zagreb).

**Forwards:** Mario Mandzukic (Juventus), Nikola Kalinic (Fiorentina), Marko Pjaca (Dinamo Zagreb), Andrej Kramaric (Hoffenheim), Duje Cop (Dinamo Zagreb).

### Czech Republic

#### Coach

Pavel Vrba

#### Star man

Petr Cech

#### Tournament best

Finalists 1996

#### Qualifying record

W7 D1 L2



**Goalkeepers:** Petr Cech (Arsenal), Tomas Koubek (Slovan Liberec), Tomas Vaclik (Basle).

**Defenders:** Theodor Gebre Selassie (Werder Bremen), Roman Hubnik (Viktoria Plzen), Pavel Kaderabek (Hoffenheim), Michal Kadlec (Fenerbahce), David Limbersky (Viktoria Plzen), Daniel Pudil (Sheffield Wednesday), Tomas Sivok (Bursaspor), Marek Suchy (Basle).

**Midfielders:** Vladimir Darida (Hertha Berlin), Borek Dockal (Sparta Prague), Daniel Kolar (Viktoria Plzen), Ladislav Krejci (Sparta Prague), David Pavelka (Kasimpasa), Jaroslav Plasil (Girondins Bordeaux), Tomas Rosicky (Arsenal), Jiri Skalak (Brighton), Josef Sural (Sparta Prague).

**Forwards:** David Lafata (Sparta Prague), Tomas Necid (Bursaspor), Milan Skoda (Slavia Prague).

### Spain

#### Coach

Vicente del Bosque

#### Star man

David Silva

#### Tournament best

Winners 1964, 2008, 2012

#### Qualifying record

W9 D0 L1



**Goalkeepers:** Iker Casillas (Porto), David De Gea (Man United), Sergio Rico (Sevilla).

**Defenders:** Sergio Ramos (Real Madrid), Gerard Pique (Barcelona), Jordi Alba (Barcelona), Marc Bartra (Barcelona), Cesar Azpilicueta (Chelsea), Mikel San Jose (Athletic Bilbao), Hector Bellerin (Arsenal), Juanfran (Atletico Madrid).

**Midfielders:** Bruno (Villarreal), Sergio Busquets (Barcelona), Andres Iniesta (Barcelona), Thiago (Bayern Munich), David Silva (Manchester City), Pedro (Chelsea), Cesc Fabregas (Chelsea), Lucas Vazquez (Real Madrid), Koke (Atletico Madrid).

**Forwards:** Aritz Aduriz (Athletic Bilbao), Nolito (Celta Vigo), Alvaro Morata (Juventus).

### Turkey

#### Coach

Fatih Terim

#### Star man

Arda Turan

#### Tournament best

Semi-finals 2008

#### Qualifying record

W5 D3 L2 (best third place)



**Goalkeepers:** Volkan Babacan (Medipol Basaksehir), Onur Recep Kivrak (Trabzonspor), Harun Tekin (Bursaspor).

**Defenders:** Gokhan Gonul (Fenerbahce), Sener Ozbayrakli (Bursaspor), Semih Kaya (Galatasaray), Ahmet Calik (Genclerbirliği), Hakan Balta (Galatasaray), Caner Erkin (Fenerbahce), Ismail Koybasi (Besiktas).

**Midfielders:** Mehmet Topal (Fenerbahce), Selcuk Inan (Galatasaray), Ozan Tufan (Fenerbahce), Oguzhan Ozyakup (Besiktas), Hakan Calhanoglu (Bayer Leverkusen), Nuri Sahin (Borussia Dortmund), Arda Turan (Barcelona), Olcay Sahan (Besiktas), Volkan Sen (Fenerbahce), Emre Mor (Nordsjaelland).

**Forwards:** Burak Yilmaz (Beijing Guoan), Cenk Tosun (Besiktas), Yunus Malli (Mainz).

**GROUP D NOT TO WIN A GAME**  
**SPAIN 8/1 CZECH REPUBLIC 13/10**  
**TURKEY 6/5 CROATIA 11/5**



**StanJames.com**  
 For the bettors

General T&C's Apply. See [www.stanjames.com](http://www.stanjames.com) for full details. Gamble responsibly. [www.gambleaware.co.uk](http://www.gambleaware.co.uk). Prices subject to fluctuation.



## Group E



# Shaken Belgium under pressure

FOOTBALL clichés mean every major tournament must have a ‘group of death’ and Group E has that tag at Euro 2016.

Belgium went top of FIFA’s world rankings after winning their qualifying group, and Euro 2012 finalists Italy were the team to avoid in pot two when the draw was made, so the presence of both nations in the same group thrilled the neutrals.

Add Zlatan Ibrahimovic’s Sweden to the mix, along with the Republic of Ireland soon after they had beaten world champions Germany, and there is certainly much to relish in this group.

Belgium went to the World Cup two years ago being widely tipped as one

of the dark horses to challenge the traditional powerhouses of world football, but failed to impress and were eliminated by Argentina in the quarter-finals.

Now they are under more pressure to justify the hype surrounding them, and a young team must prove they can live up to expectations this time.

Their squad is certainly packed with talent, but Italy have more know-how on the big stage and their June 13 showdown should be fascinating.

Sweden and Ireland qualified through the play-offs, but will both be hopeful of causing an upset and advancing to the knockout stage.



## Predicted winner

**BELGIUM:** They have a lot to do to justify their standing in FIFA’s world rankings, but a team featuring Kevin De Bruyne, Eden Hazard and Romelu Lukaku can certainly go far if they replicate the form they have shown in the Premier League.

## Dark horse

**ITALY:** This may look a poor team by Italy’s standards, but the defence again appears solid. Scoring goals could be a problem – they only netted 16 in their qualifying campaign – but it is a brave man who backs against the Italians at a major tournament.

**Swedish icon Zlatan Ibrahimovic is among a host of world stars on show in Euro 2016’s ‘group of death’**

## Belgium

### Coach

Marc Wilmots

### Star man

Kevin De Bruyne

### Tournament best

Finalists 1980

### Qualifying record

W7 D2 L1



**Goalkeepers:** Thibaut Courtois (Chelsea), Simon Mignolet (Liverpool), Jean-François Gillet (Mechelen).

**Defenders:** Toby Alderweireld (Tottenham), Jan Vertonghen (Tottenham), Thomas Vermaelen (Barcelona), Jason Denayer (Galatasaray), Jordan Lukaku (Ostend), Thomas Meunier (Brugges), Laurent Ciman (Montreal Impact), Christian Kabasele (Genk).

**Midfielders:** Moussa Dembele (Tottenham), Radja Nainggolan (Roma), Marouane Fellaini (Man Utd), Axel Witsel (Zenit St Petersburg), Eden Hazard (Chelsea), Kevin De Bruyne (Man City), Dries Mertens (Napoli), Yannick Carrasco (Atletico Madrid).

**Forwards:** Mitchy Batshuayi (Marseille), Romelu Lukaku (Everton), Christian Benteke (Liverpool), Divock Origi (Liverpool).

## Italy

### Coach

Antonio Conte

### Star man

Gianluigi Buffon

### Tournament best

Winners 1968

### Qualifying record

W7 D3 L0



**Goalkeepers:** Gianluigi Buffon (Juventus), Federico Marchetti (Lazio), Salvatore Sirigu (PSG).

**Defenders:** Andrea Barzagli (Juventus), Leonardo Bonucci (Juventus), Giorgio Chiellini (Juventus), Matteo Darmian (Man United), Mattia De Sciglio (AC Milan), Angelo Ogbonna (West Ham).

**Midfielders:** Federico Bernardeschi (Fiorentina), Antonio Candreva (Lazio), Daniele De Rossi (Roma), Stephan El Shaarawy (Roma), Alessandro Florenzi (Roma), Emanuele Giaccherini (Bologna), Marco Parolo (Lazio), Stefano Sturaro (Juventus), Thiago Motta (PSG).

**Forwards:** Eder (Inter), Ciro Immobile (Borussia Dortmund), Lorenzo Insigne (Napoli), Graziano Pelle (Southampton), Simone Zaza (Juventus).

## Republic of Ireland

### Coach

Martin O'Neill

### Star man

Robbie Keane

### Tournament best

Group 1988, 2012

### Qualifying record

W5 D3 L2 (won play-off)



**Goalkeepers:** Shay Given (Stoke), Darren Randolph (West Ham), Keiren Westwood (Sheffield Wednesday).

**Defenders:** Seamus Coleman (Everton), Cyrus Christie (Derby), Ciaran Clark (Aston Villa), Richard Keogh (Derby), John O'Shea (Sunderland), Shane Duffy (Blackburn), Stephen Ward (Burnley).

**Midfielders:** Robbie Brady (Norwich), Aiden McGeady (Everton), James McClean (West Brom), Glenn Whelan (Stoke), James McCarthy (Everton), Jeff Hendrick (Derby), David Meyler (Hull), Stephen Quinn (Reading), Wes Hoolahan (Norwich).

**Forwards:** Robbie Keane (LA Galaxy), Shane Long (Southampton), Jon Walters (Stoke), Daryl Murphy (Ipswich).

## Sweden

### Coach

Erik Hamren

### Star man

Zlatan Ibrahimovic

### Tournament best

Semi-finals 1992

### Qualifying record

W5 D3 L2 (won play-off)



**Goalkeepers:** Andreas Isaksson (Kasimpasa), Robin Olsen (Copenhagen), Patrik Carlgren (AIK).

**Defenders:** Ludwig Augustinsson (Copenhagen), Erik Johansson (Copenhagen), Pontus Jansson (Torino), Victor Lindelof (Benfica), Andreas Granqvist (Krasnodar), Mikael Lustig (Celtic), Martin Olsson (Norwich).

**Midfielders:** Jimmy Durmaz (Olympiakos), Albin Ekdal (Hamburg), Oscar Hiljemark (Palermo), Sebastian Larsson (Sunderland), Pontus Wernbloom (CSKA Moscow), Erkan Zengin (Trabzonspor), Oscar Lewicki (Malmo), Emil Forsberg (Leipzig), Kim Kallstrom (Grasshoppers).

**Forwards:** Marcus Berg (Panathinaikos), John Guidetti (Celta Vigo), Zlatan Ibrahimovic (Paris Saint-Germain), Emir Kujovic (Norra Koping).

**GROUP E WINNER**  
**BELGIUM 6/5 ITALY 6/4**  
**SWEDEN 6/1 REPUBLIC OF IRELAND 9/1**



**StanJames.com**  
 For the bettors

General T&C's Apply. See [www.stanjames.com](http://www.stanjames.com) for full details. Gamble responsibly. [www.gambleaware.co.uk](http://www.gambleaware.co.uk) Prices subject to fluctuation.



# Venue guide

## Vital statistics on the 10 stadiums hosting Euro 2016 matches

### BORDEAUX

**Stade de Bordeaux**  
**Capacity:** 42,000

**Matches:** 5, including Wales v Slovakia and Belgium v Republic of Ireland

The newly-constructed stadium opened on the final weekend of the 2014-15 season, replacing Bordeaux's previous home, the Stade Chaban-Delmas, which hosted matches at the 1998 World Cup. The new venue north of the city features a 'floating' roof supported by 900 stanchions, and was designed by architects Herzog & de Meuron, also responsible for Munich's Allianz Arena.

### LENS

**Stade Bollaert-Delelis**  
**Capacity:** 35,000

**Matches:** 4, including England v Wales

Almost the entire population of Lens could fit in the stadium, with the city home to an estimated 36,000 people. The stadium has undergone renovation ahead of Euro 2016 and has previously been used at Euro 84, the 1998 World Cup and 2007 Rugby World Cup.

### LILLE

**Stade Pierre Mauroy**

**Capacity:** 50,000

**Matches:** 6, including Italy v Republic of Ireland

Opened in 2012, it features a retractable roof which can be opened or closed in 30 minutes. France play here against Switzerland on June 19 – Switzerland were also France's opponents when the Davis Cup final was staged here in 2014.

### LYON

**Stade de Lyon**

**Capacity:** 59,000

**Matches:** 6, including Ukraine v Northern Ireland and a semi-final

The new stadium replaces the Stade de Gerland, home of Olympique Lyonnais since 1950 and which hosted games at the 1998 World Cup. The complex, in the east of the city, also includes Lyon's training ground plus offices and hotels.

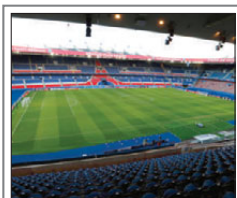
### MARSEILLE

**Stade Velodrome**

**Capacity:** 67,000

**Matches:** 6, including England v Russia and a semi-final

The stadium originally featured a cycling track, hence its name, and was opened in 1937. It was famed for being open to the elements but improvements, which were completed in September 2014, included a roof. Matches were staged here during the 1938 and 1998 World Cups. It is located on the banks of the Huveaune river in the south of the city.



**PARIS**  
**Parc des Princes**



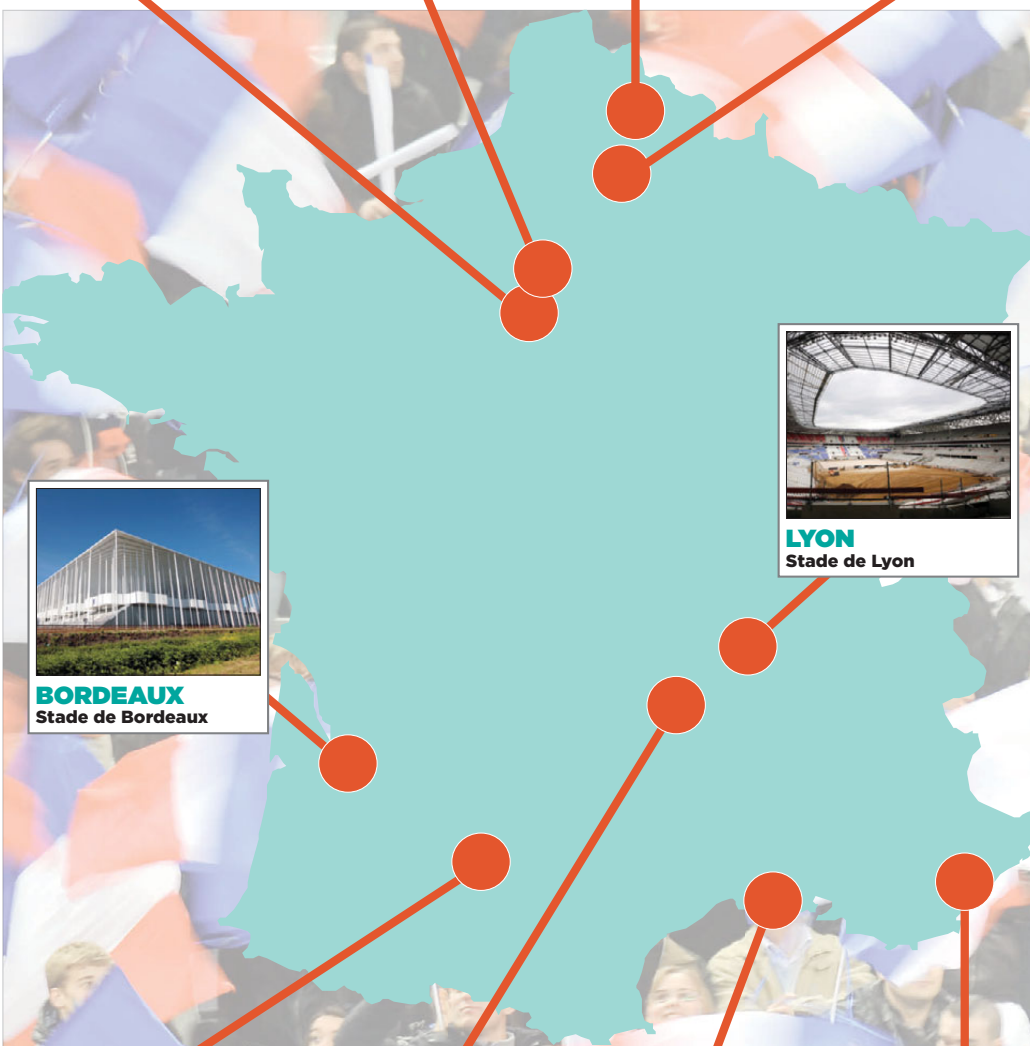
**SAINT-DENIS**  
**Stade de France**



**LILLE**  
**Stade Pierre Mauroy**



**LENS**  
**Stade Bollaert-Delelis**



**BORDEAUX**  
**Stade de Bordeaux**



**LYON**  
**Stade de Lyon**



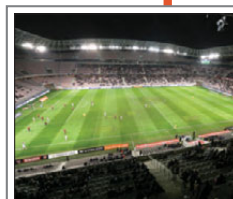
**TOULOUSE**  
**Stadium de Toulouse**



**SAINT-ETIENNE**  
**Stade Geoffroy Guichard**



**MARSEILLE**  
**Stade Velodrome**



**NICE**  
**Stade de Nice**

### NICE

**Stade de Nice**  
**Capacity:** 35,000

**Matches:** 4, including Poland v Northern Ireland

One of the most environmentally-friendly stadiums in the world opened in 2013. Rain water is collected from the stadium roof and stored in four reservoirs for watering the pitch while 4,000 solar panels produce more than three times the energy required to power the stadium. France's National Sport Museum has moved here from Paris.

### PARIS

**Parc des Princes**

**Capacity:** 45,000

**Matches:** 5, including Northern Ireland v Germany

The home of French champions Paris Saint-Germain is the third stadium to have been situated on the site in the south-west of the city. It has hosted six European club finals and matches at past championships and World Cups.

### SAINT-DENIS

**Stade de France**

**Capacity:** 80,000

**Matches:** 7, including Republic of Ireland Sweden and final

Staged the World Cup final in 1998 and the Rugby World Cup final nine years later, as well as the Champions League finals in 2000 and 2006. It was the target of suicide bombers during the terrorist attacks in Paris in November when France were playing Germany.

### SAINT-ETIENNE

**Stade Geoffroy Guichard**

**Capacity:** 42,000

**Matches:** 4, including Slovakia v England

Nicknamed the Cauldron due to the intimidating atmosphere and proximity of the fans to the pitch, with the four separate stands giving the appearance of a traditional English football stadium following the removal of an athletics track in 1956.

### TOULOUSE

**Stadium de Toulouse**

**Capacity:** 33,000

**Matches:** 4, including Russia v Wales

Reopened in January after improvements ahead of Euro 2016. It was originally opened in 1937 in time for the World Cup the following year and was nicknamed 'mini Wembley' due to its similarity to England's home ground at the time. It also underwent renovations ahead of the 1998 World Cup and required repair work following an explosion at a nearby chemical plant in 2001. Situated on the island of Ramier near the city centre.

**JUST A SECOND**

WE'LL REFUND YOUR FIRST GOALSCORER SELECTION  
IN ANY MATCH IF THEY SCORE SECOND INSTEAD



**StanJames.com**  
For the bettors

General T&C's Apply See [www.stanjames.com](http://www.stanjames.com) for full details. Gamble responsibly. [www.gambleaware.co.uk](http://www.gambleaware.co.uk)



## Group F



# Icemen cometh for new venture

THE expansion of the European Championship to 24 teams has given more teams the chance to go to France, and Iceland are among those making their debut at the finals.

Austria have also qualified on their own merit for the first time – rather than as co-hosts in 2008 – but it is their improvements on the pitch, rather than the new format, that is responsible for both teams having their chance to test themselves on the big stage.

It may have been expected that they would need the play-offs to get through qualifying, but Austria were instead one of the most impressive performers, dropping only two points as they topped a group

featuring Sweden and Russia with ease.

Iceland also justified the increased investment in facilities in the country to finish second behind the Czech Republic, and the draw means both teams can harbour realistic ambitions of going through to the knockout stage.

Hungary have also qualified for the first time since 1972, overcoming Norway in a play-off, and look one of the weakest teams on show, while Portugal will be clear favourites to win the group thanks to the presence of Cristiano Ronaldo alone.

The Real Madrid star will be determined to make yet another mark on the world football stage.



## Predicted winner

**PORTUGAL:** Widely acknowledged to be the second best player on the planet, a fully-fit Ronaldo should ensure Portugal have a comfortable passage to the knockout stage, but others will have to raise their game if they are to go much further.

## Dark horse

**AUSTRIA:** The confidence and momentum built up in qualifying could carry Austria further than many expect. A draw with Sweden was followed by nine straight wins – a record which was the envy of more illustrious teams – and they have star quality in David Alaba.

**Cristiano Ronaldo's presence alone makes Portugal favourites to top the group**

## Austria

**Coach**  
Marcel Koller

**Star man**  
David Alaba

**Tournament best**  
Group 2008

**Qualifying record**  
W9 D1 L0



**Goalkeepers:** Robert Almer (Austria Vienna), Heinz Lindner (Eintracht Frankfurt), Ramazan Oezcan (Ingolstadt).

**Defenders:** Aleksandar Dragovic (Dynamo Kiev), Christian Fuchs (Leicester City), Gyorgy Garics (Darmstadt), Martin Hinteregger (Borussia Monchengladbach), Florian Klein (Stuttgart), Sebastian Prodl (Watford), Markus Suttner (Ingolstadt), Kevin Wimmer (Tottenham Hotspur).

**Midfielders:** David Alaba (Bayern Munich), Marko Arnautovic (Stoke City), Julian Baumgartlinger (Mainz), Martin Harnik (Stuttgart), Stefan Ilsanker (Leipzig), Jakob Jantscher (Lucerne), Zlatko Junuzovic (Werder Bremen), Marcel Sabitzer (Leipzig), Alessandro Schoepf (Schalke).

**Forwards:** Lukas Hinterseer (Ingolstadt), Rubin Okotie (1860 Munich), Marc Janko (Basle).

## Hungary

**Coach**  
Bernd Storck

**Star man**  
Balazs Dzsudzsak

**Tournament best**  
Semi-finals 1964, 1972

**Qualifying record**  
W4 D4 L2 (won play-off)



**Goalkeepers:** Gabor Kiraly (Swietelsky-Haladas), Denes Dibusz (Ferencvaros), Peter Gulacsi (Leipzig).

**Defenders:** Attila Fiola (Puskas Akademia), Barnabas Bese (MTK Budapest), Richard Guzmics (Wisla Krakow), Roland Juhasz (Videoton), Adam Lang (Videoton), Tamas Kadar (Lech Poznan), Mihaly Korhut (DVSC-Teva).

**Midfielders:** Adam Pinter (Ferencvaros), Gergo Lovrencsics (Lech Poznan), Akos Elek (DVTK), Zoltan Gera (Ferencvaros), Adam Nagy (Ferencvaros), Laszlo Kleinheisler (Werder Bremen), Zoltan Stieber (Nuremberg).

**Forwards:** Balazs Dzsudzsak (Bursaspor), Adam Szalai (Hannover), Krisztian Nemeth (Al-Gharafa), Nemanja Nikolic (Legia Warsaw), Tamas Priskin (Slovan Bratislava), Daniel Bode (Ferencvaros).

## Iceland

**Coaches**  
Lars Lagerbeck and Heimir Hallgrimsson

**Star man**

Gylfi Sigurdsson

**Tournament best**  
First-time qualifiers

**Qualifying record**  
W6 D2 L2



**Goalkeepers:** Hannes Halldorsson (Bodo/Glimt), Ogmundur Kristinnsson (Hammarby), Ingvar Jonsson (Sandefjord).

**Defenders:** Ari Skulason (OB), Hordur Magnusson (Cesena), Hjortur Hermannsson (PSV Eindhoven), Ragnar Sigurdsson (Krasnodar), Kari Arnason (Malmo), Sverrir Ingi Ingason (Lokeren), Birgir Sævarsson (Hammarby), Haukur Heidar Hauksson (AIK).

**Midfielders:** Emil Hallfredsson (Udinese), Gylfi Sigurdsson (Swansea), Aron Gunnarsson (Cardiff), Theodor Elmar Bjarnason (AGF), Arnor Ingvi Traustason (Norrkoping), Birgir Bjarnason (Basel), Johann Gudmundsson (Charlton), Eidur Gudjohnsen (Molde), Runar Mar Sigurjonsson (Sundsvall).

**Forwards:** Kolbeinn Sigthorsson (Nantes), Alfred Finnbogason (Augsburg), Jon Dadi Bodvarsson (Kaiserslautern).

## Portugal

**Coach**  
Fernando Santos

**Star man**  
Cristiano Ronaldo

**Tournament best**  
Finalists 2004

**Qualifying record**  
W7 D0 L1



**Goalkeepers:** Rui Patricio (Sporting), Anthony Lopes (Lyon), Eduardo (Dinamo Zagreb).

**Defenders:** Cedric Soares (Southampton), Vieirinha (Wolfsburg), Bruno Alves (Fenerbahce), Ricardo Carvalho (Monaco), Jose Fonte (Southampton), Pepe (Real Madrid), Eliseu (Benfica), Raphael Guerreiro (Lorient).

**Midfielders:** Danilo Pereira (Porto), William Carvalho (Sporting), Adrien Silva (Sporting), Joao Mario (Sporting), Joao Moutinho (Monaco), Andre Gomes (Valencia), Renato Sanches (Benfica).

**Forwards:** Cristiano Ronaldo (Real Madrid), Nani (Fenerbahce), Eder (Swansea City), Ricardo Quaresma (Besiktas), Rafa Silva (Braga).

**GROUP F NOT TO WIN A GAME**  
PORTUGAL 7/1 ICELAND 13/10  
AUSTRIA 10/3 HUNGARY 4/5



**StanJames.com**  
For the bettors

General T&C's Apply. See [www.stanjames.com](http://www.stanjames.com) for full details. Gamble responsibly. [www.gambleaware.co.uk](http://www.gambleaware.co.uk) Prices subject to fluctuation.



## Betting guide

# French fancy fun chez nous

by Lenny Miller

FRANCE know better than most the importance of home advantage, and they have got the players to replicate the achievements of the class of '98 in front of their own fans.

That World Cup-winning squad is arguably the best group of players any country has ever assembled at one tournament. Marcel Desailly, Laurent Blanc, Bixente Lizarazu, Lillian Thuram, Emmanuel Petit, Patrick Vieira, Youri Djorkaeff, Robert Pires, Zinedine Zidane, Thierry Henry and David Trezeguet. That generation were all world-class and are now legends.

Their skipper, Didier Deschamps, is now the coach, and will know his current crop cannot live up to that impossibly high standard, but that's not to say the 3-1 favourites are not good enough to win Euro 2016.

They have a formidable spine, with Hugo Lloris one of the world's best goalkeepers, and

### Stan James odds

#### TO WIN

France	3-1
Germany	10-3
Spain	11-2
England	9-1
Belgium	10-1
Italy	16-1

#### TOP SCORER

Thomas Muller	Germany	7-1
Cristiano Ronaldo	Portugal	7-1
Antoine Griezmann	France	8-1
Harry Kane	England	12-1
Romelu Lukaku	Belgium	12-1
Robert Lewandowski	Poland	14-1

Juventus midfielder Paul Pogba is destined for great things, while their options up front, even without Karim Benzema, are mind-boggling.

Deschamps isn't lacking for pace in that department, with Anthony Martial, Kingsley Coman and Atletico Madrid's prolific Antoine Griezmann in his ranks. Olivier Giroud and Andre-Pierre Gignac can play the target man role if needed.

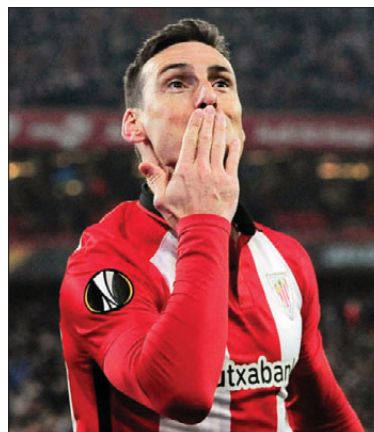
A young, exciting England squad genuinely have a good chance at 9-1, but they are so vulnerable at the back that I can't see them going all the way. A

best finish for 20 years, however, is within a reach and perhaps a semi-final exit is worth backing.

World champions Germany (10-3) and European Championship holders Spain (11-2) represent France's biggest threat, but are not at the peak of their powers, as they were when winning those titles.

Germany, with a few players retired and a couple of injuries, are a team in transition.

They were not convincing in qualifying, losing to Poland and Ireland, and only managed clean sheets against minnows Gibraltar (twice) and Georgia (once).



**Athletic Bilbao striker Aritz Aduriz is a tempting 30-1 outsider to be top scorer at Euro 2016**

Spain had a nightmare in Brazil two years ago, relinquishing their World Cup crown in the group phase, but their squad looks formidable.

Any manager who can afford to leave out Santi Cazorla, Juan Mata and Diego Costa from their 23-man squad must be blessed, and Vicente del Bosque certainly is just that.

Aritz Aduriz is someone to keep an eye on. The Athletic Bilbao veteran scored 36 goals in all competitions in 2015-16, and is certainly worth a few pennies to be the tournament's top goalscorer at 30-1.

### Euro quiz

- 1 Which nation, apart from Germany, have appeared in all European Championship finals from 1988 to 2012?
- 2 What was England's best finish in a European Championship?
- 3 Who has made the most appearances as a player and a coach in the finals?
- 4 Who has scored the most hat-tricks in the tournament?
- 5 How many times have champions Spain won the title?
- 6 Who won the inaugural competition in 1960?
- 7 Which team were the first to win the competition via a penalty shootout?
- 8 What year did Germany first compete as a unified country?
- 9 Wales are taking part in their first European Championship finals. How far did they reach in the 1958 World Cup?
- 10 How many times have fellow finals newcomers Northern Ireland competed in a World Cup finals?

#### ANSWERS

- 1 Netherlands, 2 Third place (1968), 3 Dino Zoff (Italy), one as a player and one as a coach, 4 Michel Platini (France, 2), 5 Three, 6 Soviet Union, 7 Czechoslovakia in 1976, 8 1992, 9 Quarter-finals, 10 Twice (1958, 1982).



NEW CUSTOMER OFFER

**BET £10**

**GET £20**

**FREE BET**



**EURO FOOTBALL**

**StanJames.com**  
For the bettors

Bet £10 Get £20 offer for new accounts only, opened via web or mobile. First bet must be a minimum of £10 at 4/5 or greater to qualify. General terms and conditions apply. See [www.stanjames.com](http://www.stanjames.com) for more info. Gamble responsibly. [www.gambleaware.co.uk](http://www.gambleaware.co.uk) 18



SOUTHERN  
**Daily Echo**

# FIND THE BALL



## THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT

# £40,000

or £1,000 nearest miss prize...

**PLUS 70 consolation prizes of £15 each week**

**20 for Southern Daily Echo  
20 for Daily Echo Bournemouth  
10 for Dorset Echo  
10 for Sunday Independent  
10 for Brighton Argus**

**F**IND THE BALL is a test of skill and football knowledge and is open to readers of the Southampton, Bournemouth, Dorset Echos, Brighton Argus and Sunday Independent, Plymouth.

You have to use your skill and judgement to determine the exact centre of the ball.

Mark an X with a ballpoint pen on the picture where you consider that position to be—clear rubber stamps and self adhesive labels will also be accepted.

Every coupon will be carefully examined and the jackpot prize will be paid to the entrant whose cross marks the exact centre of the ball when the photograph was taken.

If the Jackpot is not won, £1,000 will be added to next week's jackpot.

The nearest-miss prize of £1,000 will be paid out each week to the

competitor whose cross is nearest to the centre of the ball when there is no jackpot winner.

When a jackpot has been won the next week's prize reverts back to £5,000 and the nearest-miss prize stays at £1,000.

If the Jackpot is not won after 46 weeks, when standing at £50,000, the nearest miss prize of £1,000 will be paid out and the jackpot will remain at £50,000 each week until there is a jackpot winner, then the jackpot starts again at £5,000, with the nearest miss prize remaining at £1,000 each week.

If there is more than one winner the jackpot will be shared and, similarly, if there is more than one runner-up the nearest miss prize will also be shared.

### RESULTS



**CLOSING DATE FOR POSTAL ENTRIES**  
Thursday  
9am,  
16th June  
2015  
Names of winners will be published on  
**Saturday,  
18th June  
or  
19th June  
2016**

### Winners

Competition number S22

### JACKPOT WINNER NO WINNER

CONGRATULATIONS

P Stone, Bournemouth, Dorset

who wins the nearest miss prize of £1,000

The following competitors each receive a consolation prize of £15

D Baker Southampton, Hants	I Keegan Southampton, Hants
R Baker Southampton, Hants	B Lamb Southampton, Hants
M Brooke Southampton, Hants	R McDonald Southampton
T Chamberlain Fareham, Hants	T Murphy Fareham, Hants
J Covey Southampton, Hants	M Reid Southampton, Hants
M Cunningham Southampton	L Rogers Southampton, Hants
R Down Woodlands, Hants	J Smith Southampton, Hants
D Forder Southampton, Hants	L Smyth Southampton, Hants
G Grinham Southampton, Hants	A Waller Southampton, Hants
G Jessup Southampton, Hants	R Williams Southampton, Hants

### Rules

1. You are allowed a minimum of 60 crosses and a maximum of 450 per coupon. Coupons with 451 or more will be disqualified. Entries altered defaced or mutilated will be invalid. Crosses must be distinct and separate. 2. Competitors may submit as many coupons as they wish. Members of a family can send their entries in one envelope with a covering postal order or cheque. 3. No responsibility can be accepted for entries delayed, lost or mislaid. Proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. 4. Payment may be made by postal order or cheque for the correct amount payable to Newsquest, and crossed 'G Co.' Stamps will not be accepted in payment. 5. A competitor cannot win more than one share of the prize money across all titles each week. 6. The Editor's decision on winning entry or entries and matters relating to this competition is binding in honour only. NO CORRESPONDENCE CAN BE ENTERED INTO. 7. Employees of NEWSQUEST Media Group and subsidiary companies and members of their families are not eligible to enter the competition. 8. Address entries to FTB, Newspaper House, Test Lane, Southampton, SO16 9JX in a sealed envelope. Understamped entries are not accepted. 9. Prize monies are held for and on behalf of winners. 10. Do not send cash in the post. 11. Winners will be required to participate in publicity. 12. Photocopies not accepted. 13. For rules go to [www.dailyecho.co.uk/promotions/rules](http://www.dailyecho.co.uk/promotions/rules). 14. If you pay by cheque your prize money will be paid to you once cheque has cleared.

An incident in a Riverside v Chamberlayne match

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE ONLY



Please use black/blue ink and capitals

TITLE ☐ MR ☐ MRS ☐ MISS ☐ MS

FIRST NAME

SURNAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

DAYTIME

TELEPHONE

I enclose cash/cheque/postal order Value £'s

On what day(s) do you purchase the Daily Echo?

☐ MON ☐ TUE ☐ WED ☐ THURS ☐ FRI ☐ SAT

Do you have the paper home delivered?

☐ YES ☐ NO

11 June, 2016

Please cross box

60 CROSSES £1

125 CROSSES £2

200 CROSSES £3

325 CROSSES £4

450 CROSSES £5

**DAILY ECHO**

### SAVE POSTAGE

For your convenience coupons may be posted in our **FIND THE BALL** collecting boxes located at selected newsagents and all branch offices

Deadlines for branch office collection boxes are as follows:  
Bournemouth Echo 12 noon Tuesday  
Southern Daily Echo 12 noon Tuesday  
Dorset Echo Closing time Monday

Deadlines for selected newsagents collection boxes as listed in:  
Bournemouth Echo closing time Monday  
Southern Daily Echo 10.00 am Tuesday  
Dorset Echo Closing time Monday

A list of participating newsagents will be published in the Echos on the first Saturday of each month

**CASH PRIZE EVERY WEEK**

Please complete entry form and send to:  
**FTB Newspaper House, Test Lane, Southampton SO16 9JX**  
Cheques payable to newsquest



# SOUTHERN Daily Echo

Reader Offer

Newmarket Holidays



## Rhine Christmas Markets Cruise

**Festive Fun on board Olympia**

**4 days from £249.00, 14 & 17 December 2016**

Cruise from Boppard through the heart of the Rhine Valley, to call at Rudesheim and Koblenz, home to some of the Rhine's best-loved Christmas Markets.

### Highlights & inclusions

- Embark in Boppard
- Cruise through the beautiful Rhine Gorge, beneath the Lorelei
- Christmas Market calls at Rudesheim and Koblenz
- On-board entertainment and English commentary
- Escorted by a friendly, experienced cruise manager
- Three nights' full board accommodation on board Olympia
- Coach travel from the local area and Channel crossings

Call **0330 160 7751**

QUOTE NCS

Visit **www.newmarket.travel/ncs14612**

These holidays are organised & operated by Newmarket Air Holidays Ltd. ABTA V7812. ATOL protected 2325. Subject to availability. Single supplements apply. Standard phone charges



## OPEN DAY EVENT

FREE CONSULTATIONS HELD ON THE DAY

**SATURDAY 25TH JUNE**

**FROM 10.00AM**

### FIND OUT HOW WE CAN HELP YOU!

- Do you have missing teeth?  
- **Implants**
- Would you like straighter teeth?  
- **Invisalign**
- Do you hide your smile?  
- **Smile Makeovers**
- Do you dislike your fine lines?  
- **Dermal Fillers & Anti-Wrinkle Treatments**

### SPREAD THE WORD...

REMEMBER IF YOU RECOMMEND YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY, AND THEY JOIN OUR PRACTICE, YOU WILL RECEIVE A **£25 CREDIT VOUCHER!**

FOR EVERY APPOINTMENT BOOKED WE WILL GIVE OUR NEW PATIENT A FREE ORAL B ELECTRIC TOOTHBRUSH

**023 8069 2653**

Botley Road, Horton Heath  
Eastleigh, Hampshire  
SO50 7DW

mail@thurlowdentalcare.co.uk  
www.thurlowdentalcare.co.uk

**THURLOW**  
DENTAL & FACIAL AESTHETICS

## Sunrise Tour of Homes

## Let's Celebrate!

**Friday 17th June 10.00am - 5.00pm**

Join us for an exciting day of activities and educational seminars that will provide entertainment as well as valuable information about senior care.

- Specialist advisers including Communicare on transportation for the elderly and Coffin Mew Solicitors on Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Face painting, Birds of Prey, Cordicella String Trio, Hearing Dogs
- A variety of charity stalls selling items from around the world
- Delicious light refreshments
- Tours of our community

Call Chris or Rebecca on **023 8228 0019** or email today to book your tour. Or book online: **sunrise-care.co.uk/openday**



THE JOY OF EVERY DAY

In association with:



**SUNRISE**  
SENIOR LIVING  
THE JOY OF EVERY DAY

### Sunrise of Bassett

111 Burgess Road, Bassett,  
Southampton, Hampshire SO16 7AG

☎ **023 8228 0019**

**SunriseBassett.co.uk**



\*If you have a food allergy, please inform us of the allergen/food to avoid.



OWN YOUR DREAM HOLIDAY HOME AT ROCKLEY PARK



Our award-winning park is just across the water from Sandbanks, home to Britain’s rich and famous. With miles of sheltered sand, shingle beach and turquoise water to enjoy here on Dorset’s Jurassic Coast.

OWNERS ONLY FACILITIES & BENEFITS

- Owners’ lounge and bar
  - Owners’ heated outdoor pool
  - Owners’ private gym and health suite
- Privilege Plus Card offering 15% off
  - Owners’ Wine Club
  - Nature reserve and private beach

The Atlas Everglade has a modern open plan living area, fully vaulted ceiling, fitted cabinets, electric fire and relaxing, co-ordinating soft furnishings, the Everglade-4 is a stylish great value family leisure home.

EVERGLADE FEATURE HIGHLIGHTS

- Modern kitchen design
  - L shaped fixed seating
  - Fixed dinette
- Pull out bed to lounge
  - Large bathroom/shower room
  - Contemporary interior



We would love to show you and your family around. For more information or to arrange a visit

CALL 0333 202 1455  
VISIT [ROCKLEYPARK.CO.UK](http://ROCKLEYPARK.CO.UK)

Calls to 0333 numbers are charged at standard UK rates and will be included in any inclusive minute bundles

ROCKLEY PARK HOLIDAY PARK,  
HAMWORTHY, POOLE, DORSET, BH15 4LZ



\*Representative finance example. Holiday home cash package price £29,995, less deposit of £6,000, gives a loan amount of £23,995. 84 monthly payments of £391.84. Total charge for credit £8,919.42. Total amount payable £38,914.42 which includes the deposit amount. The interest rate is 5.31% fixed. 9.9% APR (representative). Package price includes siting, connections, standard accessories, this year’s entry level site fees, water charges, rates and insurance. Bourne Leisure Limited, company registration no 04011660, whose registered office address is 1 Park Lane, Hemel Hempstead Hertfordshire HP2 4YL. Offer must be used by 30th June 2016.



# HAMPSHIRE CRICKET

## HAMZA'S DEATH STUNS OUT-OF-FORM HANTS

**IT is hard to recall a more devastating two days for Hampshire than Wednesday and Thursday of this week.**

The tragic death of Hamza Ali has put the county's worst start to a T20 campaign in sharp perspective, writes *Simon Walter*.

It had a demoralising effect on the players as they prepared for their Natwest T20 Blast match against Surrey at The Oval.

Hampshire's 80-run defeat against Surrey is the county's biggest by a runs margin (surpassing last season's 78-run loss against Essex at Chelmsford) but came in tragic circumstances.

The players wore black armbands in tribute after it was broken to them that Hamza, who made his first-class debut against Cardiff MCCU during a trial with the county in April, drowned while swimming in the River Avon on Wednesday.

Already reeling from their eight-run defeat to Kent at Canterbury on Wednesday night, news of Hamza's passing made it impossible for Hampshire's players to be fully focused on their second T20 match in as many days.

In that context, the result was hardly surprising.

Surrey know all too well the effects the death of a teammate can have, following Tom Maynard's passing four years ago.

Hamza's death echoes that of Sussex cricketer Umer Rashid, who drowned off the island of Grenada in 2002.

Sussex fast bowler Matthew Hobden also died tragically earlier this year, after falling from the roof of a country house.

Hamza's father Ghulam explained the circumstances leading up to the tragedy that befell his son in an interview with the Bristol Post.

"He had a slight hamstring strain and the physios at Hampshire had told him that swimming would be good for it," he said.

"We played together in a match on Sunday, and on Wednesday he told me that he was going out with his friends to go swimming.

"It's Ramadan now so he was going out with his friends to keep occupied in the afternoon. I thought he was going to the local swimming pool, but he went to the river at Saltford - I had no idea."

Hampshire's sensational Royal London One-Day Cup win against Middlesex at Radlett CC on Tuesday afternoon now seems much longer than four days ago.

But it is fitting that their next match is against Gloucestershire, the county Hamza represented at youth level, in Bristol, the city where he was born and raised and where his funeral was held yesterday.



Jimmy Adams after his dismissal at The Oval. Inset: Darren Sammy tweeted a selfie with Hamza Ali (right) in tribute

day.

Tuesday's RLODC fixture is a good chance for both counties to pay tribute to Hamza, who had played a West Of England Premier League match for nearby Downend CC last Saturday.

From Hampshire's perspective, it is also a chance to build on their stunning five-wicket win at Radlett, where Liam Dawson starred with the ball before making an unbeaten 68 as the visitors comfortably chased down a revised target of 202 in 26 overs.

Victory would certainly be a morale boost ahead of Hampshire's next T20 game against Sussex on Friday.

Danny Briggs - who has been conspicuous by his absence from

the county's attack in the shortest format - will aim to be the second ex-Hampshire player from the Isle of Wight to inflict T20 misery on his former teammates following David Griffiths' heroics for Kent on Wednesday.

Not since 2003 have Hampshire suffered four successive T20 defeats and they are already in the middle of their worst start to a T20 campaign since the shortest format's inaugural season.

The loss of Briggs to Sussex, after Hampshire agreed to the slow left-armer's request to be released from the last year of his contract, is one reason for the county's place at the foot of the T20 South Group.

So too is the injury-enforced absence of Chris Wood, another key

member of the attack that helped Hampshire win two T20 titles and reach six successive Finals Days from 2010-15.

James Vince's England call-up has not helped as Hampshire have been without their captain as well as their best batsman.

But it is the injuries to other key players like Fidel Edwards, new signing Reece Topley and, most recently, Michael Carberry, that have left Hampshire most short of T20 firepower.

There were only four survivors from last season's semi-final against Lancashire in action at Canterbury and The Oval (Adam Wheeler, Sean Ervine, Will Smith and Dawson) and that tells its own story.

### Hampshire Cricket fixtures 2016

**APRIL**  
4-6 Cardiff MCCU (h)  
Hampshire 369-8 dec (J Weatherley 83, T Alsop 82, L McManus 68) & 126-3, Cardiff UCCE 258-9 (M Crane 3-70) & 79-1. Drawn.

10-13 Warwickshire (h) SCC  
Hampshire 202 (R McLaren 85) & 185-5 (L Dawson 50no), Warwickshire 369 (J Tomlinson 3079, F Edwards 3-102). Drawn

17-20 Yorkshire (a) SCC  
Yorkshire 593-9 dec & 183-8 (J Tomlinson 3-31), Hampshire 453 (S Ervine 123, J Vince 119, A Wheeler 62, R McLaren 55no). Drawn

**MAY**  
1-4 Middlesex (h) SCC  
Hants 336 (M Carberry 107, L Dawson 89) & 290-5 dec (J Adams 70, A Wheeler 57no, R McLaren 46no), Middlesex 361 (J Tomlinson 4-74, R McLaren 4-74) & 55-2. Drawn.

8-11 Lancashire (a) SCC  
Hants 109 & 253 (Kerrigan 5-59), Lancs 456 (Procter 137, Best 5-50). Lost by an innings and 94 runs.

22-25 Nottinghamshire (h) SCC  
Hampshire 270 (T Alsop 72) & 223-9 dec (W Smith 61no), Notts 189 & 235 (T Best 4-47). Hampshire won by 67 runs.

27 Middlesex (Uxbridge) T20  
Middlesex 195-6, Hampshire 126 (L Dawson 46). Hampshire lost by 69 runs.

29 Middlesex (a, TBC) SCC  
Middlesex 467-3 dec, Hampshire 131 & 220 (J Adams 78). Hampshire lost by an innings and 116 runs.

**JUNE**  
2 Kent (h) T20  
Hampshire 158-8 (M Carberry 54), Kent 149 (S Afridi 3-33). Hampshire won by nine runs.

3 Glamorgan (a) T20  
Hampshire 141 (A Wheeler 39), Glamorgan 143-5. Hampshire lost by five wickets

5 Essex (h) RLODC  
Hampshire 310-4 (A Wheeler 90, T Alsop 83, L Dawson 70no), Essex 314-7. Hampshire lost by three wickets.

7 Middlesex (Radlett CC) RLODC  
Middlesex 295-8 (M Crane 4-80), Hampshire 204-5 (L Dawson 68no, S Ervine 45, A Wheeler 41). Hampshire won by 5 wickets (DL).

8 Kent (a) T20 (f) - Kent 193-3, Hampshire 185-9 (S Ervine 56). Hampshire lost by eight runs.

9 Surrey (a) T20 - Surrey 188-5, Hampshire 108 (L McManus 41 G Andrew 31). Hampshire lost by 80 runs.

14 Gloucestershire (a) RLODC (f)  
15 Surrey (h) RLODC (f)  
17 Sussex (h) T20 (f)  
19 Somerset (a) T20  
24 Essex (a) T20 (f)  
25 Gloucestershire (h) T20  
26-29 Somerset (h) SCC

**JULY**  
1 Surrey (a) T20 (f)  
3-6 Durham (a) SCC  
8 Essex (h) T20 (f)  
10-13 Warwickshire (a) SCC  
14 Glamorgan (h) T20 (f)  
17-20 Surrey (h) SCC  
22 Middlesex (h) T20 (f)  
26 Kent (h) RLODC (f)  
27 Sussex (a) RLODC (f)  
29 Somerset (h) T20 (f)  
31 Glamorgan (Swansea) RLODC

**AUGUST**  
2 Somerset (h) RLODC (f)  
4-7 Lancashire (h) SCC  
8-11 T20 quarter-finals  
13-16 Nottinghamshire (a) SCC  
17-18 RLODC quarter-finals  
20 T20 Finals Day (Edgbaston)  
23-26 Somerset (a) SCC  
31-3 Yorkshire (h) SCC

**SEPTEMBER**  
6-9 Surrey (a) SCC  
17 RLODC final  
20-23 Durham (h) SCC

Key  
SCC: Specsavers County Championship  
T20: Natwest T20 Blast  
RLODC: Royal London One-Day Cup  
(f): Floodlit



# HAMPSHIRE CRICKET

## LUMB SMASHES TONS TO BOOST RAMPANT NOTTS

**FORMER Hampshire batsman Michael Lumb played a starring role as Nottinghamshire went run crazy this week.**

Lumb blasted two centuries in three days as the county romped to two of the highest ever List A totals in English cricket history.

First off, Lumb hammered a career best 184 off 150 balls as Notts blazed their way to 445 in Monday's Royal London One-Day Cup victory over Northamptonshire at Trent Bridge.

Then, two days later on the same ground, Lumb struck an 88-ball 133 as the Outlaws piled up 415-5 in their 50 overs.

Both those totals are among the six highest ever amassed in English county cricket one-day history.

Also in the top six is Northants' 425 reply on Monday.

Prior to this week's efforts, Lumb had only ever scored two List A hundreds in his county career stretching back over a decade.

Both of those were for Hampshire – his 108 against Sussex in August 2007 and his 100 against Middlesex in May 2009.

Lumb struck 21 fours and six sixes against Northants, putting on a new English domestic List A record of 342 for the first wicket with Ricki Wessels (146).

Northants made a brave bid for a staggering victory, managing 425 themselves – ex-Hampshire all-rounder Rory Kleinveldt coming in at number seven and whacking 128 off just 63 balls with ten fours and nine sixes.

Lumb and Wessels (76) were at it again against Warwickshire – the pair putting on 176 for the first wicket. Greg Smith hit 73 before another former Hampshire player, Australian all rounder Dan Christian, hammered a brutal 94 from only 47 balls with eight fours and six sixes.

Warwickshire posted their own highest total against a first-class county, before being bowled out in the final over for 379.

Jonathan Trott led the charge, playing a defiant, battling knock of 100.



Michael Lumb scored two one-day centuries in three days this week

### Highest List A team scores in English cricket

496-4 Surrey v Gloucs – Oval, 2007  
445-8 Notts v Northants – Trent Bridge, 2016  
438-5 Surrey v Glamorgan – Oval, 2002  
429 Glamorgan v Surrey – Oval, 2002  
425 Northants v Notts – Trent Bridge, 2016  
415-5 Notts v Warwicks – Trent Bridge, 2016  
413-4 Somerset v Devon – Torquay 1990  
411-6 Yorkshire v Devon – Exmouth 2004  
408-9 England v New Zealand – Edgbaston, 2015  
406-5 Leics v Berkshire – Leicester 1996  
404-3 Worcs v Devon – Worcester 1987  
403-3 Somerset v Scotland – Taunton 2009  
401-7 Gloucs v Bucks – Wing 2003

### Highest List A scores in world cricket

### Highest individual scores in English county List A history

268 AD Brown Surrey v Glamorgan – Oval, Kennington 2002  
206 Al Kallicharran Warwickshire v Oxon – Edgbaston, 1984  
203 AD Brown Surrey v Hampshire – Guildford 1997  
201 VJ Wells Leicestershire v Berkshire –

Leicester 1996  
201\* RS Bopara Essex v Leics – Leicester 2008  
198\* GA Gooch Essex v Sussex – Hove 1982  
191 DS Lehmann Yorkshire v Notts – Scarborough 2001  
189\* IVA Richards West Indies v England – Old Trafford, 1984  
189\* JGE Benning Surrey v Gloucs – Bristol 2006  
189\* MJ Guptill New Zealand v England – The Ageas Bowl, 2013  
186\* CG Greenidge West Indians v Lancashire – Liverpool 1984  
184 ME Trescothick Somerset v Gloucs – Taunton 2008  
184 MJ Lumb Notts v Northants – Trent Bridge, 2016  
183 SC Ganguly India v Sri Lanka – Taunton 1999  
180\* TM Moody Worcs v Surrey – Oval, 1994  
180 RN ten Doeschate Essex v Scotland –

Chelmsford 2013  
179 JM Dakin Leicestershire v Wales – St Helen's, Swansea 2001  
177 CG Greenidge Hampshire v Glamorgan – Southampton 1975  
177 SJ Cook Somerset v Sussex – Hove 1990  
177 AJ Wright Gloucs v Scotland – Bristol 1997  
177 SA Newman Surrey v Yorkshire – Oval, 2009  
176 GA Gooch Essex v Glamorgan – Southend-on-Sea 1983  
176\* DR Clarke Bedfordshire v Derbyshire CB – Totternhoe 2001  
176 AD Brown Surrey v Gloucs – Oval, 2007  
175\* Kapil Dev India v Zimbabwe – Tunbridge Wells 1983  
175\* IT Botham Somerset v Northants – Wellingborough 1986  
173\* CG Greenidge Hampshire v Minor Counties South – Amersham 1973

## Daniel is top T20 run scorer

KENT'S Daniel Bell-Drummond is the leading scorer in the NatWest T20 Blast tournament so far.

After Thursday's games, he had scored 207 runs in four innings at an average of 69.00.

Team-mate Joe Denly is second in the list with 167 runs from four innings.

Bell-Drummond, pictured below, scored 64 when Kent lost at The Ageas Bowl.

Meanwhile, Denly hit 59 when Kent gained their revenge at Canterbury this week.

### Top run scorers

DJ Bell-Drummond (Kent) 207 (4 innings)  
JL Denly (Kent) 167 (4)  
RE Levi (Nr) 163 (3)  
KC Sangakkara (Sy) 160 (4)  
JJ Roy (Sy) 158 (4)  
T Kohler-Cadmore (Wo) 156 (4)  
BL D'Oliveira 153 (4)  
MH Wessels (Nt) 148 (3)  
CD Nash (Sx) 146 (3)  
LRPL Taylor (Sx) 145 (3)



P Mustard (Dur) 142 (5)  
J Allenby (Sm) 128 (3)

### Top Championship runscoreers

EC Joyce (Sx) 662 (9 innings)  
BM Duckett (Nr) 646 (11)  
SD Robson (Mx) 636 (9)  
KC Sangakkara (Sy) 601 (13)  
T Westley (Es) 589 (10)  
SR Patel (Nt) 585 (13)  
CF Hughes (Dy) 581 (9)  
NLJ Browne (Es) 574 (11)  
SG Borthwick (Dur) 574 (9)  
JC Hildreth (Sm) 569 (11)  
DJ Bell-Drummond (Kent) 563 (10)  
BL D'Oliveira (Wo) 553 (9)  
CDJ Dent (Gs) 547 (12)  
HJM Marshall (Gs) 541 (12)  
PD Trego (Sm) 538 (11)  
JM Bairstow (Yor) 533 (6)  
JMR Taylor (Gs) 524 (12)

### Championship most wickets

GR Napier (Essex) 31  
N Wagner (Lancs) 28  
KM Jarvis (Lancs) 28  
JA Porter (Essex) 28  
J Leach (Worcs) 26  
KHD Barker (Wk) 25  
TJ Murtagh (Mx) 24  
HF Gurney (Nt) 24  
CR Woakes (Wk) 23  
CJ McKay (Leics) 23  
JT Ball (Nt) 22



One-of-a-Kind-Treasures - What will you Discover!

# ANTIQUES & FLEA MARKET

## GOODWOOD RACECOURSE

West Sussex PO18 0PS

**SUNDAY 12th JUNE**

Free Car  
Parking

Public 9.30am-4pm - Admission £3.00 Per Adult

Bookings & Enquiries Tel: 01273 782 748  
www.GoodwoodFlea.com

see website  
for more  
details



**SIZZLING DEALS**

ORDER NOW!  
Tel: 023 8060 1154

Burnetts Lane, West End,  
Southampton. SO30 2HU.  
www.owtons.com  
shop@owtons.com

Find us on  
facebook. #OwtonsButchers

All barbecue packs are sold frozen. Sausages and burgers can be cooked from frozen but all other contents should be thawed first.  
\*Barbecue Buster Pack contents are sold subject to weight.  
Quantities shown are average number of items.

## Barbecue Busters at Chalcroft Farm

### BBQ Pack One

- 2kg Spicy Chicken Wings (25)\*
- 1.36kg Chicken Drumsticks & Thighs (12)\*
- 1.5kg Chinese Pork Ribs (12)\*
- 2.2kg Catering 8's Pork Sausages (40)\*
- FREE 24 x 4oz Steak Burgers! WOW!

Only £29.99

### BBQ Pack Two

- 1kg Sirloin Steaks (6)\*
- 1.36kg Chicken Drumsticks & Thighs (12)\*
- 1.5kg Chinese Pork Ribs (12)\*
- 2.2kg Catering 8's Pork Sausages (40)\*
- FREE 24 x 4oz Steak Burgers! WOW!

Only £39.99

### BBQ Pack Three

- 2.2kg Catering 8's Pork Sausages (40)\*
- 1kg Sirloin Steaks (6)\*
- 1.5kg Chinese Pork Ribs (12)\*
- 1.36kg Chicken Drumsticks & Thighs (12)\*
- 1kg Minted Lamb Chops (8)\*
- 2kg Spicy Chicken Wings (25)\*
- FREE 48 x 4oz Steak Burgers! WOW!

Amazing value at £59.99

40  
YEARS

CELEBRATING  
40 YEARS IN THE  
MEAT INDUSTRY

# BREAKTHROUGH CARPET FITTING SERVICE IS..... THE STRESS-LESS WAY TO REPLACE YOUR CARPETS.

YOU CAN **NOW** HAVE NEW FITTED CARPETS IN YOUR HOME,  
BUT WITHOUT THE NIGHTMARE OF CLEARING YOUR ROOM IN  
PREPARATION, INCLUDING FIVE **FREE** ESSENTIAL EXTRAS.

**A**fter years of accepting traditional carpet fitting methods, customers just like you, are now choosing the smart way to have new carpets. Never again will you need to empty your room of furniture, and take up your old carpet ready for the fitters just to walk in and roll out your new carpet. Let's be frank here, if you're paying for a job to be done, you shouldn't be expected to do more than half the work yourself. It would be like eating at a nice restaurant, paying for your meal and then washing up.

#### Five free extra bonuses for you

Feature Flooring and Carpets not only removes and repositions your furniture, but will also uplift and take away your old floor coverings, secure any loose

or squeaky floorboards, expertly fit your carpet and will also trim doors to fit over your new carpets, and then vacuum, bag up, and remove all rubbish and off cuts. Leaving you with nothing to do but put back your ornaments and photographs and then enjoy your carpet for years to come.

#### A note from a customer

We would like to acknowledge the exemplary service you provided us.

We are extremely happy with the work you have done throughout our house.

We delighted with the finished product but guidance, support and advice you provided throughout was invaluable to us.

It really made what was a fairly daunting task at the start, a trouble-free and straightforward process. Mr and Mrs G. Lyndhurst

#### Just one thing for you to do now

Call Freephone, e mail or a good old fashioned letter is all that it takes, to arrange a free home visit for you to choose from over 997 carpets and vinyls, from 11 top manufacturers, always in stock whichever carpet you need for your home they have a range of quality and prices including the least and the most expensive and finally rid yourself of your old carpets that you've been thinking of changing for years **and** do it the stress-less way, **and** for the same price as fitting in an empty room. With a unique 100% guarantee of satisfaction. Call feature flooring and carpets now.

## FEATURE FLOORING AND CARPETS

FREEPHONE 0800 915 8295 • SOUTHAMPTON 02380 736004 • 12 Upton Crescent, Nursling, Southampton SO16 8AB  
e.mail info@featureflooringandcarpets.co.uk • www.lovemycarpet.co.uk

Currently rated 9.8 out of 10, with over **420** feedbacks

Proud members of  
**Checkatrade.com**  
Where reputation matters



*Experience Rail Travel as it used to be and  
make some Magical Memories aboard our Special Train*

## An interesting day out to Cheshire Saturday 23 July The Cheshire Cat

**Pick-up stations:** Eastleigh, Winchester, Basingstoke

You can explore Crewe or Stockport or select an off-train option (\*Supplementary fare payable):-

- ✱ Direct Rail Services Crewe Depot Charity Open Day\*;
- ✱ The Anderton Boat Lift & Ride\*;
- ✱ Visit Tatton Park National Trust\* ; or
- ✱ Visit RHS Flower Show Tatton Park\*.

	Adult	Junior	Party of 4	
Standard Class	£85	£42	£320	Tables for 4 aligned with panoramic windows
First Class	£124	£84	£476	Comfy seats at tables for 4 or 2 (with guaranteed window seats - supplement £28 each)
First Class Plus	£139	£99	£536	As First Class + light refreshments
Premier Dining	£219	£179	£856	As First Class with silver service dining

**BOOK NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT**

**Call 01453 835414/834477**

**Visit [www.pathfindertours.co.uk](http://www.pathfindertours.co.uk)**



All bookings subject to terms & conditions  
Licensed buffet open all day  
Booking Office open Mon to Fri 9:15 - 16:45  
Stag House, Giddynap Lane, Inchbrook, Stroud, GL5 5EZ



# ENTERPRISE ROOFING LTD

**We are approved contractors to University of Southampton and PFP.**

Enterprise Roofing Ltd. are a family run business with over 30 years' experience in all aspects of roofing. Taking pride in our work is first and foremost in each and every project. We realise having your roof replaced can be intrusive so we try and make our stay as smooth as possible, keeping both residential and commercial customers up to date with progress.

Keeping the site safe and clean is a priority.

We endeavour to keep to the work schedule set out and aim to achieve our targets, even with the British weather!

Our operatives are all health and safety trained and we are CHAS Accredited (Construction Health and Safety) and supported with 10 to 25 year insurance backed guarantees plus £10 million Public and Employers insurance.

### SPECIAL OFFER

**FREE UPVC FASCIAS AND GUTTERING WITH THE FIRST 10 RE-ROOF ORDERS ACCEPTED**  
Subject to T&C's

**WE SPECIALISE IN RE-ROOFING DOMESTIC PROPERTIES CHIMNEY  
RE-BUILDS AND CAVITY LEAD TRAYS INSTALLED**

Redbridge Business Park, Old Redbridge Road, Southampton, SO15 0NN

**Tel: 023 8051 1123 | 023 8066 8808 Mob: 07872147884**

**email: [martin@enterprise-roofing.co.uk](mailto:martin@enterprise-roofing.co.uk)  
[www.enterprise-roofing.co.uk](http://www.enterprise-roofing.co.uk)**

**SOUTHERN  
Daily Echo**

## Reader Offers Private coach travel from your local area



**SAVE  
10%**



### Countryfile Live at Blenheim Palace

**2 days from £129, 5 August 2016**

Be one of the first to attend this exciting new event, which explores every aspect of the British countryside with the atmosphere of a country fair and the quality of one of the BBC's flagship programmes.

#### Price Includes

- One night's stay with three course evening meal & cooked breakfast
- Visit to Oxford
- Entrance to Countryfile Live at Blenheim Palace

**SAVE  
10%**



### RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show

**2 days from £129, 9 July 2016**

Join us in a spectacular setting where you can admire show gardens and floral marquees, take advice from talks and demonstrations, and maybe see a celebrity or two from the horticultural world.

#### Price Includes

- One night's stay with three course evening meal & cooked breakfast
- Visit to Windsor
- Entrance to the RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show



### HRH The Prince of Wales's Gardens at Highgrove

**2 days from £149, 18 September 2016**

The perfect break for country lovers and green fingered enthusiasts.

#### Price Includes

- One night's stay with three course evening meal & cooked breakfast
- Tour of the Cotswolds with visits to Stow-on-the-Wold & Bourton-on-the-Water
- Tour of the gardens at Highgrove

**SAVE  
10%**



### The Royal Mint Cardiff & the Gower Peninsula

**4 days from £265, 29 July 2016**

See another side of the coins we carry.

#### Price Includes

- Three nights' stay with three course evening meal & cooked breakfast
- Entrance to The Royal Mint Visitor Centre
- Visit to Cardiff
- Tour of the Gower peninsula
- Visit to St Fagans National History Museum

Call **0330 134 4112**

QUOTE  
SO

Visit **[www.so.diamondhols.co.uk](http://www.so.diamondhols.co.uk)**

Operated by Diamond Holidays. Prices are per person & based on two people sharing. Single supplement applies.



**ABTA**  
ABTA No. W0552



# LOCAL CRICKET



LANGLEY Manor are not only playing the part in Southern Premier League Division 3 – but looking it as well.

Pictured in their new livery – part of a shirt sponsorship deal with Southampton-based building and development contractor, David Price Homes – Langley have won their first four games.

Victories over Hursley, Ryde, Lymington II and Havant II have taken the Manor into second place behind Basingstoke. But Langley face a succession of difficult matches, starting with Fair Oak today, and Waterlooville, Gosport and Basingstoke coming up.

Back (from left): Nick Jenkin, Dave Castle, Steve Harris, Graham Noble, Rob Noble, Pete Jerram. Front: Tom Spencer, Connor Browne, Craig Renders, Jack Budd, Azeem Hamid.

## SENIORS IN SOLID FORM

**HAMPSHIRE Seniors are once again well placed in the west groups of the respective ECB 50-plus and Seevent Over-60s national competitions.**

With four straight wins, the 50s are already on the brink of ECB quarter-final qualification, while the Sixties team has emerged from an inauspicious start with some encouraging performances, *writes MIKE VIMPANY.*

Lymington's Neil Trestrail cracked an unbeaten 121 in the opening 50s 10-wicket win over the Channel Islands, while spin duo Kevin Poulter (5-24) and Nick Gargaro (4-8) wreaked havoc when Somerset were dismissed for 88 at Privett Park.

Win number three came by an eight-wicket margin against the Isle of Wight – who had previously celebrated a rare win over the Channel Islands – but it needed a swashbuckling 70 not out from Bashley's Iain Britton to secure victory for a depleted and under-strength Hampshire team in Cornwall, who set a demanding 268-8.

The Sixties team began poorly with an eight-wicket loss to Wales, but major contributions by Terry Morton (98) and Mike Swain (101) set up follow-up wins in Gloucestershire and Wiltshire.

This week's match with Devon at Warnford was abandoned late on when the visiting skipper Nick Rogers suffered a cardiac arrest.

Rogers collapsed on the boundary line at the Hampshire Hogs ground just after he had batted.

The 45-over match was reaching a potentially thrilling climax with Devon 222-5 and requiring 16 runs off the last 13 balls of the match to overhaul Hampshire's 237 all out.

An air ambulance, two paramedics and three police vehicles attended the scene – the emergency services taking over an hour to treat and stabilise Mr Rogers, who was taken to Queen Alexandra hospital in Portsmouth, where he is expected to remain for the next weeks or so.



Hampshire Over 50s. Standing (from left): Neil Trestrail, Paul Garlick, Andrew O'Keefe, Dave Streather, Neil Taylor, Keith Harsham, Dick Batchelor (scorer). Seated: Pete Robson, Kevin Poulter, Chris Wheeler, Colin Day, Nick Gargaro.



Hampshire Over 60s. Standing (from left): Steve Mitchell, Jim Smallbone, Terry Morton, John Paine, Phil Bailey, Iain Britton, Mike Barrett (umpire). Seated: Paul Kerley, Chris Wood, Geoff Beale, Mike Swain, Andy Yorke.

he year's second major championship is around the corner, with the US Open getting under way at Oakmont on June 16.

Here, Press Association Sport looks at some of the facts and figures behind the tournament:

1. The first US Open was staged in 1895 on the nine-hole course of Newport Golf and Country Club in Rhode Island, although it was pushed back a month due to a clash with the America's Cup and considered something of a sideshow to the first US Amateur, which was played on the same course during the same week. Ten professionals and one amateur contested the 36-hole competition, with England's Horace Rawlins emerging the winner. The 21-year-old was the assistant at the host course and won USD150.

2. In 1913 the US Open really took off when Francis Ouimet, a 20-year-old American amateur, stunned the golf world by defeating the famous English professionals Harry Vardon and Ted Ray in a play-off. The story was later told in the film 'The Greatest Game Ever Played'.

3. International qualifying events began in 2005 and New Zealand's Michael Campbell secured his place at Walton Heath before going on to lift the trophy at Pinehurst.

4. The US Open is the only major to still hold an 18-hole play-off. The last was between Tiger Woods and Rocco Mediate at Torrey Pines in 2008. Woods won on the first hole of sudden death after both men shot 71.

5. Hale Irwin became the oldest champion at the age of 45 when he defeated Mike Donald in a play-off at Medinah in 1990.

6. The par-three eighth hole at Oakmont measured 300 yards during the fourth round in 2007. Oakmont will host the event for a record ninth time in 2016.

7. Rory McIlroy (2011) and Tiger Woods (2000) are the only players to finish double digits under par in championship history. McIlroy's 16-under total at Congressional eclipsed the previous best of 12 under set by Woods at Pebble Beach.

8. The worst round ever recorded was 157 by JD Tucker in 1898, at perhaps the appropriately-named Myopia Hunt Club.

9. Phil Mickelson holds the unenviable record for most runner-up finishes (six) in a tournament he needs to win to complete the career grand slam.

10. Jordan Spieth is looking to become the first player since Curtis Strange in 1989 to successfully defend the title.

11. The 1912 US Open, held



# LOCAL CRICKET

## UNBEATEN DUO IN BID TO MAINTAIN 100% RECORD

**ONLY one unbeaten County Division 1 record will remain intact by the time England's footballers launch their Euro 2016 campaign in Marseille tonight.**

Three unblemished starts ended last weekend, leaving Alton and Hook & Newnham Basics second teams the only undefeated sides.

By a quirk of fixture fate, they just happen to be playing each other at Hook's King George VI Ground today, writes Mike Vimpany.

But Hook almost came a cropper – alongside Portsmouth & Southsea, Purbrook and United Services – at Totton & Eling, who finished a boundary-hit sky of a notable victory when the teams met in a top v bottom affair at Southern Gardens.

Hook posted 267-9 on the back of teenager Jack Robson (69), Matt Buckingham (51) and Andrew Dormody (43).

But the young and improving Eels almost won, with Wayne Lockyer's 77 the pivot of a late run flurry which saw one-time Hampshire off-spinner Richard Dibden (38) lead Totton to 277 all out and an agonising three-run defeat.

Alton's 16-run win over Purbrook was based almost entirely around Ryan Hale's unbeaten 102 which underpinned a total of 191-7.

Purbrook's reply fell apart at the seams. They were 88-8 (Tom Paul 4-33) before a ninth-wicket recovery got them to 175 all out.

P & S fancied themselves as potential CD1 winners, but a slender one-run defeat at Bishop's Waltham knocked their early prospects.

Don Quincey (49) top scored in Waltham's 142-9, but incoming Hong Kong leggie Sunny Bhimsaria proved more than enough for P & S, who finished one short at 141-9, despite Matt Benfield's half-century.

Newly promoted US got a scare at St Cross Symondians III a week earlier and when visiting New Milton III trimmed them by seven runs at Burnaby Road their record had gone as well.

Ryan Beck's 69 underpinned Milton's 183, which owed much to late order trio Joe Hall, Dave Crossley and Matt Baker.

US appeared to be cruising home at 136-4 (Yashan Akila 62), but tumbled to 176 all out, with Hall (3-25) and Baker (3-23) doing the damage.

South African Tim Niemand, pictured, hit 139 and Alex Stogdon (80) as Ropley posted a hefty 356-9 before completing a 204-run win over visiting Ventnor II's youthful islanders.

Andover beat Sarisbury Athletic by six wickets, but slipped to 58-4 before Harry Blackburn (60) and Luke Andrews (34) eased them past the visitors' 163 (Manders 56).



Ryan Hale and, inset, Tim Neiland

OTs & Romsey chased down Burridge's 193, while Ben Kissane's 70 played a major part as Fareham & Crofton got home by five wickets after hosts Ellingham had posted 203.

Steve Fryer bailed St Cross Symondians out of the mire at 86-7 and went on to win the Chris James sponsored man-of-the-match prize.

The St Cross secretary scored an in-

nings changing 65 not out and, along with Henry Eades took three wickets as Shrewton were dismissed for 143, some way short of their hosts' 199 all out.

● Paultons' all-rounder Tony Richman has completed a notable 5,000 Southern Premier League and 300-wicket double.

He passed the batting milestone

when, as captain, he led from the front with an unbeaten 89 in last week's thrilling run chase against Hartley Wintney – Paultons being 104-6 and chasing 243 when he arrived at the crease!

One club man Richman, who has been at Paultons since he was a 13-year old, took his 300th SPL wicket earlier in the season.

## Park hope Allam is in on time

TICHBORNE Park will be checking the London Gatwick flight arrivals board as they await key all-rounder Tom Allam's scheduled early morning return from Corfu in time to play in tomorrow's Davidstow Village Cup county final against Hambledon.

Allam is expected back at Tichborne in time for the 1pm start, but club officials are concerned that flight delays could force a late change to their line-up.

Tichborne Park: W Allam, Cheyney, Pond, Skinner, Long, T Allam, Bristow, Court, P Primmer, E Primmer, Allen. Hambledon: Bond, G Marshall, Vickers, J Marshall, S Le Clerq, O Chapman, Glanfield, L Le Clerq, Bains, R Chapman, Harding.

Hampshire League side Parley have a huge mountain to climb if they are to qualify for the national phase.

They face an away tie in the Dorset/Wiltshire county final against Goatacre, past Lord's finalists, who reached last year's semi-finals, knocking Parley out at the corresponding stage.

Parley field a strong side but are handicapped by an injury to spin bowler Oli Green.

Parley: A Nippard, S Collins, J Rowett, O Morris, O Green, R Embalagama, O Thomas, G Wilson, J Nicholls, J Markham, T Blackley.

## U-17s out for victory

HAMPSHIRE Under-17s aim for a second win in the ECB Under-17 Cup when they host Gloucestershire at Basingstoke & North Hants' Mays Bounty ground, tomorrow (11am).

They beat Worcestershire last week, with Longparish talent Billy Mead hitting 110 and skipper Felix Organ scoring 93.

Hampshire Under-17s: Alex Bone, Jack Campbell, Harry Gadd, Patrick Holly, Miles Kantolinn, Billy Mead, Felix Organ, Zac Organ, George Pardoe, Oli Rankin, Elijah Samuel, Tom Scriven.

Hampshire Under-15s host Oxfordshire in the ECB County Cup at Hook & Newnham Basics' KGV Ground, 11am.

Hampshire Under-15s: Cam Robertson (captain), Alex Ayers, Alex Brown, Will Carr, Jovan Dhariwal, Joe Kooner-Evans, Patrick Lewis, Fletcher Middleton, Tadhg Patten, Tom South, Joe Vaughan, Ollie Waddington.



## NEW Tabley Riser Recliner



- Overall Height: 43"
- Overall Width: 33"
- Overall Depth: 36"
- Maximum User Weight: 23 stone

ONLY  
**£399\***

SAVE  
**£401**  
On MRP

## NEW ST1 Boot Scooter



- Max Range: upto 6 miles
- Max Speed: 4mph
- Max User Weight: 18 stone

ONLY  
**£399\***

SAVE  
**£1131**  
On MRP

## Bellavita Bathlift



- 3 recline positions
- Fits to the base of the bath, easily removable
- Comfort covers are machine washable

ONLY  
**£199\***

SAVE  
**£300**  
On MRP

## 4 Wheel Walker



REDUCED  
**£35\***

SAVE  
**£2.50**  
On Previous Price

- Easily manoeuvrable
- Can be used inside or outside
- Includes a tray, basket and walking stick holder

## Calverly Adjustable Bed



REDUCED  
**£459\***

\*Excluding Headboard

- Adjusted to your desired position to maximise your comfort
- Has a choice of base depths and sizes
- Max User weight: 18 stone

SAVE  
**£20**  
On Previous Price

## NEW Circulation Maxx



- Alleviates feet issues caused by poor blood circulation
- Can be used by diabetics
- Electrical Muscle Stimulator

REDUCED  
**£79.50\***

HALF PRICE  
SAVING

## Stairlifts

**FREEPHONE**  
**0800 038 7800**

FOR A FREE NO OBLIGATION SURVEY



**£100**  
GIFT VOUCHERS  
WITH ALL NEW  
STAIRLIFT  
PURCHASES

### 24 Hour Callout Service

We have people on the phone 24 hours a day, seven days a week plus overnight and weekend engineering support

**Often Fitted Next Day**

**STRAIGHT RECONDITIONED STAIRLIFTS:**  
**NOW FROM ONLY**

**£495\***

**STRAIGHT NEW STAIRLIFTS:**  
**NOW FROM ONLY**

**£1195\***

**WE BUY BACK STAIRLIFTS -**  
**UP TO £500 PAID. ACORN,**  
**BROOKS, MINIVATOR & AGE UK**  
Subject to survey and age

# SPRING INTO

## Ableworld

[www.ableworld.co.uk](http://www.ableworld.co.uk)

*Your Local Specialist*



Pick up your copy of our 2016 Product Brochure today, request a copy in store or online today at [www.ableworld.co.uk](http://www.ableworld.co.uk)

## I-Lite Wheelchair



REDUCED  
**£119\***

- Seat Width: 17"
- Solid Tyres
- Max User Weight: 18 stone
- Easy to fold down

SAVE  
**£10**  
On Previous Price

## SOUTHAMPTON ABLEWORLD

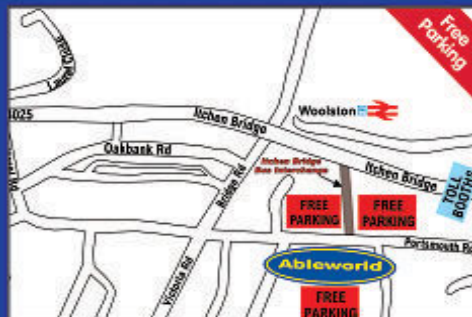
42-46 Portsmouth Road, Woolston  
Southampton, SO19 9AD  
Email: [info@ableworldsouthampton.co.uk](mailto:info@ableworldsouthampton.co.uk)

**T: (02380) 440000**

Open 7 days a week

To see more stores, please visit:

[www.ableworld.co.uk](http://www.ableworld.co.uk)  
Opposite the Bus Station



facebook.com/ableworld twitter.com/AbleworldUK  
[www.ableworld.co.uk](http://www.ableworld.co.uk)

Ableworld are the main mobility retailer in the area approved as a Community Equipment Dispenser



NHS Vouchers Welcome \*VAT Exempt - Ask In Store for Details  
MRP - Manufacturers Recommended Price.  
Previous Price - Sold for 28 Days in Last 6 months at our Martine Store

Ableworld are an Appointed Representative of Fish Insurance, who are authorized and regulated by the Financial Services Authority





**Newmarket Holidays**

SOUTHERN

**Daily Echo**



**Buckingham Palace**

*Celebrate Her Majesty's 90th Birthday*

**2 days from £115.00, 20 August, 9 & 19 September 2016**

Visit Buckingham Palace in 2016 and you will see the magnificent State Rooms and also 'Fashioning a Reign' Exhibition, a celebration of Her Majesty's 90th birthday.

For tours in August you'll also be able to pre book a tour of Clarence House, in September the exquisite Queen's Gallery.

**Highlights & inclusions**

- Admission to Buckingham Palace and the 'Fashioning a Reign' Exhibition
- 'Royal London' sightseeing tour
- Visit to Royal Windsor
- One night's three-star bed and full buffet breakfast hotel accommodation in the Heathrow/Slough area
- Coach travel from the local area
- Escorted by a friendly tour manager

**Book today to reserve your place!**



**WINNER**

BRITISH TRAVEL AWARDS 2015

BEST LARGE ESCORTED TOURS HOLIDAY COMPANY

Call **0330 160 7751** QUOTE NCS

Visit **www.newmarket.travel/ncs11438**

These holidays are organised & operated by Newmarket Promotions Ltd. ABTA V787K. Subject to availability. Single supplements apply. Standard phone charges.

 **ABTA**  
Travel with confidence

**Home Choose Carpets**



Over 20 Years Experience

100's of Carpet & Vinyl Samples to choose from, In the comfort of your own Home

• **FREE FITTING** • **FREE ESTIMATES** • **FREE DELIVERY**

We can move your furniture and uplift & dispose of your old carpets

**Please Ring 02380 803100**

**Freephone 0800 0387722**

**www.home-choose-carpets.com**

**GMA**

GALLAGHER MOBILITY AIDS LTD

'Caring for you'

Free insurance with each new scooter



Lift and reclining chairs From £495

Available here 

FROM £495

FROM £110

FROM £48

• USED EQUIPMENT BOUGHT AND SOLD

• HIRE FACILITIES

• FULL MAINTENANCE

• BATH LIFTS

EXTENSIVE RANGE OF WHEELCHAIRS AND 3 & 4 WHEELED WALKERS

**Call NOW**

**Southampton 023 8055 7777**

**www.disabledaids.org.uk**

Independence Building, Belgrave Road, Southampton SO17 3ES

tel: 023 8055 7777

Christchurch

tel: 01425 270666

Finance arranged subject to status

**Inspirational shopping ideas**



Search over 9,000 local businesses

Brought to you by

**Daily Echo newsextra**

HAMPSHIRE CHRONICLE

Romsey Advertiser

In association with

 Hampshire County Council

**shopinhampshire.co.uk**

**West Cliff Hall**

part of the Hartford Care family

**The Best Possible Care Has Come to Hythe**



**West Cliff Hall is now part of the Hartford Care family!**

We offer the very best possible residential, specialist dementia and 24 hour nursing care on a permanent or respite basis.

**West Cliff Hall**  
West Street  
Hythe, Southampton  
Hampshire  
SO45 6AA

**hartfordcare**  
care culture companionship

For more information or a brochure, please visit [www.hartfordcare.co.uk](http://www.hartfordcare.co.uk) or call Amanda on 023 8084 4938

*The Mortimer Arms*



**FUNCTION ROOM AVAILABLE**

**FABULOUS LOCATION**

**WEDDINGS \* PARTIES**

**MEETINGS \* SKITTLES**

**CHRISTENINGS \* WAKES**

Telephone or email for availability or a brochure - Bar and exceptional food menu (if required) from buffet to 3 course sit down dinner we cater for any size function

10 - 100 people

**THE MORTIMER ARMS**

**ROMSEY ROAD**

**OWER (Jct 2 M27)**

**ROMSEY, SO51 6AF**

**02380 814379**

**www.mortimerarms.co.uk**

**info@mortimerarms.co.uk**

**City COLLEGE SOUTHAMPTON**

**OPEN DAY**

FOR ALL

• SCHOOL LEAVERS • ADULTS • PROFESSIONALS

**SATURDAY 18TH JUNE 2016**

**9.30AM - 1.00PM**

CAREER-FOCUSED COURSES AND APPRENTICESHIPS

**FAST FORWARD YOUR CAREER**

**WWW.SOUTHAMPTON-CITY.AC.UK**



# Ex-Poppies vice president Johnny dies



Johnny Brooks

THE Bournemouth football fraternity is in mourning after the passing of Spurs great and former England international Johnny Brooks.

Father of Cherries favourite Shaun Brooks and grandfather of Poole Town assistant and former New Milton manager Callum Brooks, Johnny died at a care home in Bournemouth this week aged 84.

Having started out at Reading, Brooks shot to prominence with 51 goals in 179 appearances at White Hart Lane and gained three caps for England, scoring twice while playing alongside some true greats of the beautiful game.

He opened the scoring in front

of more than 93,000 people in a 3-1 win over Wales in the British Championships at Wembley in a side that featured Tom Finney, Johnny Haynes and Stanley Matthews in November, 1956.

Brooks also netted in a 3-0 friendly win over Yugoslavia two weeks later and made what was his final England appearance in the 5-2 World Cup preliminary win over Denmark at Molineux, Wolverhampton.

He moved on to Chelsea and enjoyed a fruitful spell with Brentford before finishing his pro career with Crystal Palace.

Brooks moved to the area in the '90s and frequented the local football circuit at all levels.

He was honorary vice presi-

dent of Poppies when son Shaun was in charge at Victoria Park.

Callum Brooks said of his grandfather: "When I first went to New Milton, he was still well enough to see some of the games and came along.

"He gave me a lot of criticism for the ball being in the air too much.

"He said the style of football hurt his neck.

"I tried to explain that was what I had asked them to do, they couldn't play one-twos around the pitch.

"Had he been well enough, he would have been watching training or even showing the lads how it should have been done."

# Millers look to youth to help with club's long-term plan

**TOTTON & Eling will have the youngest manager in the Sydenhams Premier Division next season – and a youthful team to match.**

Having parted company with Lee Thorne, the Millers have appointed 24-year-old ex-Romsey Town boss James Phillips to lead their Division One campaign, *writes WENDY GEE.*

Two summers ago Phillips made history when, at the tender of 22, he became the youngest manager in FA Cup history for Romsey's extra preliminary round tie against Fareham Town.

Since leaving the Bypass Ground, he has enhanced his coaching education working alongside James Taylor, Kevin Braybrook, Mick Marsh and Dave Fear at Team Solent.

T&E finished a disappointing 15th in Sydenhams One last season following relegation the previous year and, as secretary Rob Lomax explained, they have decided to move in a different direction.

Some five years after relocating, the club are still in talks with Totton & Eling Town Council over a 25-year lease for their Miller Park home and Lomax – also chairman of Totton & Eling Youth – said: "We've not got the facilities or budget to pay players, so we need to change our philosophy and build with youngsters long-term rather than going for a short-term fix.

## Learning curve

"We had two good U18 teams – mine and Shawn Kitcher's – last season and quite a few of them played for the first team and reserves.

"We knew we had good youth players coming through and we didn't want to lose them here, there and everywhere and have them join other clubs. We want to keep them together and, to do that, we might have to take a little step backwards to move forwards in the long run.

"We know it's going to be a learning curve for the youngsters, but we



New Totton &amp; Eling manager James Phillips

want to nurture them along with a few senior players.

"Lee Thorne's a great lad, but we felt we needed someone fresh to manage the first team, someone adaptable to that role.

"James had the same sort of remit to work with youth at Romsey, but that changed after a few months.

"After leaving Romsey, he became a coach at Team Solent. He's highly thought of by Kev Braybrook and you can't get a much better recommendation than that. I did my FA

coaching courses with Kev.

"James has got his Uefa B coaching badge and he's working towards Uefa A.

"He's quite raw and needs experience, but how does he get it if you don't give him a chance?

"We feel we'll be good for him to enhance his career and he's a good fit for us."

Phillips is in the process of appointing his backroom staff.

Kitcher, meanwhile, has taken over as reserve team manager follow-

ing Matt Froukhians' departure to Hythe & Dibden.

"Shawn ran the U18s last year and helped out Matt in the second half of the season," Lomax explained. "We felt it was right to keep the continuity going.

"We want to work with youth and bring a younger squad through."

T&E will start pre-season training on Tuesday, June 14, and Thursday, June 16 (7pm start both days), at Testwood School. Any keen players are welcome to attend.

## THE RACING WEEK AHEAD

Monday: Most attention is likely to be focussed on The Orangery at Kensington Palace as the Goffs London Sale takes place. Irish 1,000 Guineas winner Jet Setting is arguably the top lot up for grabs but the likes of Dee Stakes winner Viren's Army, Group Three winner Great Page and promising juvenile Justice Frederick are also catalogued.

Tuesday: Day one of the Royal meeting kicks off with leading American miler Tepin set to do battle with the best of the Europeans in the Queen Anne Stakes. Galileo Gold, Awtad and The Gurkha - winners of the English, Irish and French Guineas - are due to cross swords in what must be one of the best renewals of the St James's Palace Stakes for many a year, while last year's hero Goldream will try to defend his King's Stand Stakes crown in the first sprint showpiece of the week.

Wednesday: Japanese superstar A Shin Hikari continues the international theme as he is a short price for the feature Prince of Wales's Stakes following a demolition job on his European bow in the Prix d'Isipahan at Chantilly last month. Breeders' Cup winner Found could be given a chance to shine for Aidan O'Brien, with Time Test and The Grey Gatsby expected to spearhead home hopes.

Thursday: Staying is the name of the game with the Gold Cup, considered by some to be the true jewel of the meeting, the pick of the action. Order Of St George dominates the market for the O'Brien team, who sent out Yeats to win the two-and-a-half-mile heat on three occasions. The market for the Ribblesdale Stakes suggests it could be a good day for the Ballydoyle outfit with Even Song and Somehow both to the fore. The Britannia Stakes provides a handicap highlight.

Friday: Today is all about the three-year-olds with the Coronation Stakes and Commonwealth Cup sharing top billing, with the King Edward VII Stakes and the Queen's Vase in support. The Commonwealth Cup is in just its second year but again is shaping up as one of the races of the meeting after Quiet Reflection routed her rivals at Haydock last month.

Saturday: Speed really is of the essence in the Diamond Jubilee Stakes and favourite Magical Memory has certainly shown plenty of toe in winning twice for Charlie Hills in the build up to the race. There could be a no more popular winner of the Hardwicke Stakes than Dartmouth. Owned by the Queen, victory for this horse in the Group Two affair would surely set the seal on Her Majesty's 90th birthday celebrations and raise the roof of the grandstand.

Sunday: The totepool Pontefract Castle Stakes provides the pick of the British Sunday action at Pontefract. However, venture further afield and the French Oaks at Chantilly is a race to savour.

ISSN 0969-563X



770969 563168  
P65P ISSN 0969-563X

Published by Newsquest Media (Southern) Ltd and printed at Newsquest (Southern) Ltd, from the offices at Newspaper House, Redbridge, Southampton, SO16 9JX. Telephone 023 8042 4800. Registered at the Post Office as a newspaper. 126th year.

**SEVEN MORE PAGES OF NON LEAGUE FOOTBALL INSIDE**